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THE TIMES

Inside the Afghan guerrilla stronghold, page 14



A fireman hosing down rubble that, before the weekend of riot and destruction, had been the Railton Road sub-post office in Brixton. Photograph by Harry Kerr

Lord Scarman to hold Brixton inquiry

By Fred Emery
Political Editor

An urgent public inquiry is to be conducted into the Brixton riots by Lord Scarman, one of Britain's most senior judges, who will have powers to require evidence and grant witnesses immunity from prosecution, if necessary.

Announcing this in the House of Commons yesterday, Mr William Whitelaw, Home Secretary, also confirmed that official compensation will be paid, through the police, for damages to property during the three days of disorder under the Riot Damages Act.

Turning aside Opposition pleas to widen the inquiry, Mr Whitelaw insisted that Lord Scarman would be able to interpret his terms of reference to include the effects of unemployment and poor housing as well as the relationship between the police and public. The Home Secretary said he had acted rapidly to secure the services of Lord Scarman because he wanted the inquiry to provide a "quick answer".

Mr Whitelaw gave no timescale, however. Informed sources later suggested that the inquiry might take about the same time as the seven months it took Lord Scarman to report after his 1974 inquiry into the Red Lion Square disturbance.

Asked about the proposed rally in Brixton next Sunday, Mr Whitelaw did not condemn it but stated in the Commons that he hoped "everyone will seek to do their best to cool the situation on the ground". He looked for support for having taken what he called "very quick and decisive action" in setting up the inquiry.

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The inquiry is being set up under section 32 of the Police Act, 1964, which specifically includes "any matter connected with the policing of any area". Lord Scarman's terms of reference are: "To inquire urgently into the serious disorder in Brixton on April 10 to 12 and to report, with the power to make recommendations".

The proceedings will be held in public, except where Lord Scarman may decide it appropriate to hear evidence in private. Whether evidence is taken on oath is also at Lord Scarman's discretion. His power to grant immunity could obviously affect prosecutions. That, the reason behind one of Mr Whitelaw's answers — which caused Conservative backbenchers some disquiet. Mr Whitelaw said he was advised that there was no reason why charges being brought against those involved could not proceed. "Whether that continues to be the case must depend on the progress of the inquiry."

Reaction in the Commons divided generally on predictable party lines with Conservative MPs concentrating on the criminal, and the Labour side on the social aspect. Mr Whitelaw was all understanding, saying that everything could be looked at in the inquiry. But, to repeated Labour urgings that more money be spent, he finally retorted: "I do not think we can buy our way out of these particular problems".

Lord Scarman, who is 70 later this summer, is a Lord Appeal in Ordinary, who has also identified himself strongly with moves for constitutional reform. His report on the Red Lion Square demonstration was widely regarded as a model of its kind. When a Labour left-winger yesterday questioned what he could know of life in Brixton, Mr Whitelaw's insistence that Lord Scarman had the support from all sides of the House gained vigorous indications of assent from the Labour front bench.

According to our legal correspondent governments have become used to sending for Lord Scarman when faced with sensitive issues. He investigated the riots in Northern Ireland in the summer of 1969; that report is regarded still as a model of lucid analysis. His inquiry into the Grunwick affair was perhaps less successful, namely because the issue was too overtly political.

Mr Whitelaw's announcement of the casualties and the "enormous" damage was heard in silence by the Labour benches, in marked contrast to Conservative backbenchers who voiced strong agreement with his tribute to the "great bravery and professionalism" of the police, and with his insistence that violence would not be condoned, whatever grievances individuals might feel.

Gangs of youths renew attacks on police and property

By David Nicholson-Lord
Stewart Tendler,
Nicholas Timmins,
John Witherow,
Martin Huckerby

Violence broke out in Brixton yet again last night, with mobs of youths setting light to at least seven cars, stoning police, and smashing shop windows.

As the community tried to repair the damage of three nights of violence, believing that at last tempers had begun to cool, youths, both black and white and many in their early teens, launched a series of sporadic attacks on police and property.

The trouble started shortly after the end of a meeting of the Brixton Defence Campaign in Abeng Hall. Between two and three hundred people ran past Brixton police station close by, to be pursued by police and split up. Several shop windows were smashed in the main shopping street, Brixton Road.

In Railton Road, the scene of the worst rioting of the weekend, cars were set alight and about 250 police were on the scene, some carrying riot shields used in a brief skirmish in which youths hurled bricks torn from a wall.

The stormy meeting of the defence campaign had broken up without reaching any decision on what action to take over alleged police brutality. It meets again tomorrow.

Mr Rudy Narayan, the barrister involved in organizing the campaign, said the youths from the front line, otherwise known as Railton Road, wanted an immediate march on the police station.

A *Times* reporter leaving the meeting was attacked by a group of angry youths, who smashed his tape recorder and stole money from his wallet.

The new violence occurred as attempts were being made to restore a semblance of normality amid the buildings still smouldering from earlier riots.

Nine of the policemen injured over the weekend were still detained in hospital, including one constable who was unconscious with a fractured skull.

More than 75 people appeared in south London courts yesterday, charged with such offences as assaulting the police, theft, and criminal damage; the majority were remanded on bail, but there were fines of up to £250 for several offenders.

Work continued on repairing the physical damage: nine buildings, including a public house and many shops, were demolished in the violence; 11 more were seriously damaged; and 90 suffered minor damage; 47 buildings were looted. Some estimates put the cost of the destruction at more than £2m.

Attempts were also under way to treat the less visible wounds suffered by the community. Mr Courtney Laws, the black director of the Brixton Neighbourhood Community Association, warned outsiders to stay away, arguing that conciliation was needed, not confrontation.

Local blacks appeared to give short shrift to left-wing political groups seeking to organize action over the violence. Some of those associated with the Brixton Defence Committee, however, sounded more militant when talking of the plans for a rally next Sunday, with people invited from all over Britain.

Harsh criticism of the police came from national figures, including politicians, trade unionists, and the Bishop of Southwark, the Right Rev Ronald Bowlby, who joined local councillors and community leaders in condemning police methods in Brixton.

Mr Ted Knight, leader of Lambeth Council, criticized the police as "almost an army of occupation within the borough".

Support, however, came from members of the public who called at Brixton police station with gifts for the injured officers and messages of support.

To reduce tension, Mr Knight wanted the police to drop most of the charges against those arrested. He also demanded government action to tackle the social and economic problems in Brixton which played so great a part in creating the turmoil.

Thatcher criticism of violence

By Our Political Editor

Mrs Thatcher, the Prime Minister, last night said she could not condemn too strongly the violence by Brixton rioters. She acknowledged the deep mistrust by young blacks of the police but said "nothing, but nothing justifies what happened. . . .". It was totally wrong that anyone should attempt to take it out on the police.

Interviewed on ITN's *News at Ten* Mrs Thatcher said that "two-way trust" was the key to restoring the situation. "I do not know quite how to get it", Mrs Thatcher said. "Sometimes too much money does not help to solve problems. It causes more trouble."

Mrs Thatcher said she did not accept that unemployment was a primary cause of the disorders. She remarked that in the thirties unemployment had been higher but there had been no violence. She did acknowledge, however, that among "young West Indians" unemployment was particularly high, but she repeated that that could not justify what had happened.

Mrs Thatcher insisted that money had been poured into Lambeth. She said £9m had been spent there last year on partnership schemes: the borough enjoyed a high rate support grant and £40m had been spent on housing. But she insisted that it would be a mistake to think that money could solve the problems. "Money cannot buy either trust or racial harmony", she said.

Mr Enoch Powell's remark: "You have seen nothing yet" (which he repeated in the Commons from his speech two weeks ago), was "very, very alarming", Mrs Thatcher said.

Mrs Thatcher also vehemently condemned the Lambeth Labour councillors who had referred to the police as an "army of occupation". She declared: "What absolute nonsense. What an appalling remark. I condemn the person who made it."

She said had the police withdrawn, as had been suggested, they would have been subject to the gravest criticism.

Navy moves in on strike-bound submarine

By Donald Mcintyre

Widespread walkouts today throughout the Civil Service were forecast last night after a decision by the Government to use Royal Naval personnel to begin reequipping the nuclear submarine, HMS Resolution.

A naval party of 16 at the Clyde base of Coulport last night began work normally carried out by some of the 30 civil servants who normally service the submarine and are on strike in protest at the Government's 7 per cent pay offer.

The move, which came after high-level ministerial discussions came after the Resolution had arrived at Faslane in the Gairloch, eight miles by road and 25 by sea from the Coulport Royal Navy Armament Depot.

The Ministry of Defence said last night that the 16 Navy personnel were working "to assist in carrying out one aspect of the preparation of HMS Resolution before she goes on patrol."

The Council of Civil Service Unions' reaction last night was to say that the country's 540,000 white-collar civil servants would be invited to take part in half-day strike action today as previously threatened on the grounds that Naval personnel were being used to beat the strike.

The council said last night that London driving tests could be affected indirectly because of the suspension of Inland Revenue staff at Acton, west London. It said that post was no longer reaching the building, which also houses the metropolitan traffic area office. This notifies test centres throughout London of driving tests.

Driving test cancellations are expected to be halted in Doncaster today after a walkout by the town's examiners. About 15 customs officers who process "business courier" cargo also came out on selective strike yesterday.

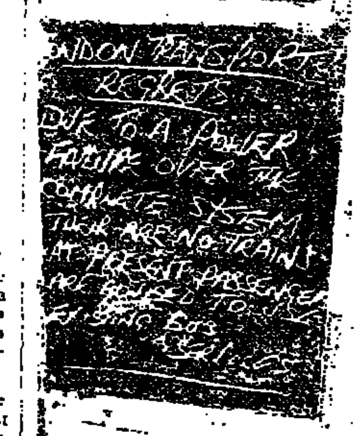
Most of the 60,000 people who receive between £40 and £50.50 a week under the Government's job release scheme may not receive their fortnightly giro cheques until after Easter because of action by computer staff at the Department of Employment's Runcorn centre.

The payments are made to women of 59 and men of 64, including about 13,000 disabled people who leave their jobs under the scheme to make way for unemployed young people. The department said people facing hardship because of the hold-up should report to their local Department of Health and Social Security offices.

"Fair" offer: Interviewed by Mr Alistair Burnett on ITN's *News at Ten* as she approaches the end of her second year in Government, Mrs Margaret Thatcher tried sounding conciliatory towards the striking civil servants (our Political Editor writes). She said she wanted them to have a system of pay that was fair—but fair, too, for the great British taxpayer.

Mrs Thatcher said she hoped that the recession was "at the bottom" but she cautioned against assuming that "things will suddenly improve". She said so much depended on the loyalty of workers to their companies in moderating pay demands.

Letters, page 15



Notice to passengers at Piccadilly Circus station.

Power fault halts the Tube

By Richard Ford and Peter Waymark

Thousands of Tube passengers were stranded in tunnels for up to 80 minutes last night after a power failure affected most of the London Underground network.

More than 400 trains came to a standstill on 241 miles of track when the systems' main generating station at Lots Road, Chelsea, failed shortly before 4 pm.

A gas supply failure within the generating station was blamed for the breakdown in power but the back-up station at Greenwich also failed because the load placed on it was too much.

A few Metropolitan Line services, supplied by the outside grid, were able to run but the rest of the system was paralysed until 5.15 pm. Passengers in trains which stopped in tunnels had emergency lighting provided by battery. Lifts were halted at stations.

At King's Cross, one of the busiest Underground stations, passengers who had been trapped emerged from the tube more annoyed at being delayed than upset by their experience.

Mr Kingsley Winter, whose train stopped between Euston and King's Cross, said: "We were lucky because there were only about a dozen people in the carriage. The train stopped suddenly and the lights went out but almost immediately the emergency lights came on at each end of the carriage. There were lights in the tunnel as well.

"We were stuck there for about an hour but no one seemed too bothered. We joked about it. It got a bit warm down there and the driver came along and opened the doors between the carriages to get some air flowing through."

Mrs Justine O'Hagan, stuck between Camden Town and Euston, said: "After we had stopped, the lights went down and emergency lights came on in the carriage. The driver came down and told us not to panic.

"A couple of old ladies were going on a bit. One of them was afraid another train would run into the back of us."

Trains started running again when engineers managed to switch to oil supplies to service the generators at Lots Road but a spokesman could not give details of the original fault. He said that the generating station at Greenwich was only able to make up a slight loss of power at Chelsea but was unable to cope with a complete failure.

Missing tiles appear as black rectangles in a photograph sent by a television camera on the shuttle.

Confidence over shuttle despite loss of tiles

From Michael Leapman
Cape Canaveral, April 13

Halfway in its 54½-hour mission, with 19 of 36 Earth orbits completed, most systems in the space shuttle Columbia continued to function as planned today. The astronauts, Commander John Young and Captain Robert Crippen, remained chirpy and confident.

Yet although officials continued to appear nonchalant about the 15 heat-resistant tiles which tore away during lift off, it was increasingly clear that they were going to put a long-term blight over the mission.

In today's papers pictures of the damaged tail section of the craft shared front pages with those of the exciting lift-off, the trail of white smoke pouring from the soaring spacecraft. Officials would have much preferred the launch photographs to have had the pages to themselves.

Much of the purpose of such highly-publicized landings is to gain public acceptance for higher government expenditure on space. Confidence is unlikely to be created by pictures of the ultra-modern craft that show it looking like the botched bathroom of a do-it-yourself handyman.

There is no reason to doubt the continued assurance of experts here that the loss of the tiles is not critical and will not endanger the craft or the crew when they reenter the earth's atmosphere tomorrow. Officials, however, still await the result of high-resolution photography from land-based cameras to see whether any tiles are missing from the underbelly of the craft, which would present a much greater hazard. That part of the craft undergoes the fiercest heat on reentry.

Mr John Yardley, the director of the space shuttle programme, said today that only 20 per cent of the tiles on the bottom—which are black, not white like the others—are so critical that the loss of just one would imperil the spaceship.

The high-resolution cameras, owned by the Air Force, are based in Florida and Hawaii. If their pictures do locate damage to any of the tiles on the underside, preventive measures could be taken to minimize the chance of disaster.

The few other problems experienced during the flight have been minor. The flight recorder has refused to switch itself off and a leaking valve caused pressurization problems. These were solved

Another photograph and spotting the defects, page 7

Night of violence in Berlin

From Patricia Clough
Bonn, April 13

Fears of even worse violence mounted today after a night of rioting, arson, and attacks on a United States military train and vehicles by supporters of 26 terrorists on hunger strike in jail.

A demonstration by about 500 sympathizers in West Berlin turned into a riot after rumours spread that one of the hunger strikers, Herr Sigurd Debus, aged 38, had died. Police denied the rumours.

Herr Debus, who is serving a 12-year sentence for bank robbery and plotting bomb attacks, is in a Hamburg hospital, where his chances of surviving much longer are said to be slim.

The terrorists want to be put together in large groups and to be treated as political prisoners, but the authorities have refused.

Their other aim is to provoke violence and terror from sympathizers.

West Berlin's main boulevard, the Kurfürstendamm, was strewn with glass this morning after demonstrators rampaged throughout the night, breaking almost all the windows and plundering shops.

They dragged vehicles across the road to make barricades, and threw fire bombs at banks. Twenty people were detained and one policeman was hurt.

In Frankfurt sympathizers smashed windows of banks and businesses.

An American military train was stopped and damaged. No one was hurt, but damage was estimated at about DM200,000 (£40,000).

The United States, and in particular its capitalism, multinational companies and its role in Vietnam, have been a favourite target for the West German terrorist movement since its beginnings a decade ago. Three United States soldiers were killed in bomb attacks on bases in 1972.

Signs point to end of recession

Tentative signs that the recession has passed its worst point have appeared. New Government figures show that manufacturing industry has experienced its first monthly rise in production since the autumn of 1979—although of less than 1 per cent—and in a West Midlands survey 17 per cent of companies forecast increased profitability compared with 9 per cent in December Page 19

GM for siege heroes

Police Constable Trevor Lock, hero of the Iranian embassy siege, and an unnamed SAS soldier have been awarded the George Medal. Four other SAS men, including the officer in charge of the operation, receive the Queen's Gallantry Medal for what the citation calls "a brilliantly carried-out rescue" Page 3

Union hint of rail strike

Rail union leaders, dismayed by British Rail's 7 per cent pay offer, are to consult their executives. All three unions are seeking increases not below the miners' 13 per cent, and the assistant general secretary of the NUR said he could "see our members taking strike action" Page 6

Labour election drive

The Labour Party launched its national campaign aimed at making large gains at the local government elections on May 7 Page 4

Six London MPs in mid-term honours list

Among 15 new life peers in the mid-term honours list Mr Michael Foot has submitted six to strengthen the Opposition in the Lords. Five are former Labour MPs with junior ministerial experience. The list includes a former Conservative junior minister. The decision has aroused the wrath of left-wing members Page 2

Bank to implement rise

Lloyds Bank will implement its 10 per cent pay offer at the end of the month despite opposition from the Banking Insurance and Finance Union. Other banks will follow, although may not pay the increase until next month. Bifu has already called a 24-hour strike by 8,000 staff in banks and cash centres in the provinces and London for next Thursday Page 19

Polish reforms urged

The Polish Government has been urged by newspapers to show that it can act without coercion by using the hoped-for lull in strikes to push through reforms. Two leading newspapers said many Poles believed that some authorities acted only under the threat of strikes or similar action Page 8

Fleet Street: The National Graphical Association is to advise its members on national newspapers to reject an 8 per cent pay offer 6

Chad: In a hospital without drugs, children play among war victims 9

Labour opens poll campaign

By Christopher Warman
Local Government Correspondent

The Labour Party, not amused by the positioning of a Conservative Party advertisement stating "Keep London out of the red", on a hoarding next to its new London headquarters in Walworth Road, yesterday launched its national campaign to make "sweeping" gains at the local government elections on May 7.

In confident mood the party aims to regain at least the position it held in the 1973 elections, when it won the Greater London Council, all six metropolitan county councils and 11 non-metropolitan county councils, and perhaps some more.

At present, as a result of the 1977 elections, Labour controls only two metropolitan county councils, and of the non-metropolitan county councils, one in England and two in Wales.

To accompany the party's ambition, Labour have put up a record number of candidates for the 4,371 seats, 3,833, compared with 3,384 in 1977 and 3,626 in 1973, the first time elections for the reorganized local government authorities were held.

All but two of the 601 seats in Greater London and the six metropolitan counties are being contested, the exceptions being two solid Conservative seats in Southport, Merseyside. Elsewhere Labour has increased its interest, raising its numbers from 9 to 26 in the lost cause of Cornwall, 9 to 22 in the Isle of Wight, 26 to 60 in Lincolnshire and 32 to 73 in North Yorkshire.

Mr Ronald Hayward, the party's general secretary, told a press conference that at a time when, local authorities were under unprecedented attack from the Tory Government, "when Mr Heseltine is putting in the boot in a very big way, the people need to vote Labour on May 7 to defend their communities against the Tory Government, and to put their trust in Labour councillors to protect local interests and local services".

He said that mass unemployment and economic crisis overshadowed Britain, and the Labour Party offered an alternative.

Mr Frank Allaun, a member of the party's local government subcommittee, said that every household in the country had been invaded by Mrs Margaret Thatcher, with rent and rate increases, both caused by the Conservative Government. But Conseervative councils should also hear the blame because they had supported the Government's policies.

Mr Benn reaffirms his party post challenge

By Richard Evans
Political Staff

Mr Wedgwood Benn reaffirmed his decision to contest the deputy leadership of the Labour party last night after attending a meeting of the left-wing Tribune group which highlighted the deep split his candidature has caused.

"I am still a candidate", he said after a two and a half hour meeting of about 50 *Tribune* MPs.

The deep divisions within the left-wing ranks were exemplified by the nine MPs who spoke in favour of Mr Benn's intentions and the 10 who spoke against. Some speakers, including Mr Stanley Orme, indicated they were in favour of voting on the issue but Mr Ian Mikardo, *Tribune* chairman, said there would be no vote while he was in the chair.

Mr Benn, who joined the group only three months ago, addressed his colleagues towards the end of the meeting and defended his decisions to announce his candidature without telling them first.

He argued that the group had neveer discussed somebody's candidature for office in the past and he did not want to be seen to be canvassing for official support from the group. Instead he wanted the support of individual members.

Mr Benn said it was necessary to work our policy itself within the party because it was clear that lost of the Shadow Cabinet were not totally in tune with party policy. There needed to be an open debate between thosee who accepted party policy and thosee who did not. He denied that his challenge for Mr Deenis Healey's job was divisive.

Although no speakers at the meeting made a specific request for Mr Benn not to stand, several implied he should reconsider his decision.

Mr Eric Heffer argued that tactically it was the wrong time for an election while Mr John Silkin said that the arguments for not opposing Mr Healey, as deputy leader when Mr Michael Foot won the leadership were still valid.

Opposition front bench strengthened in the Lords



Among 15 new life peers are (top, from left): Mrs Jane Ewart-Biggs, Mr William Molloy, Mr Hugh Thomas, Sir Desmond Plummer and Professor Sir Max Beloff, (below): Mr Anthony Stodart, Mr Geoffrey Tordoff, Mr Edward Bishop, Mr Elystan Morgan, Mr Hugh Jenkins and Mr John Mackie.

Mr Foot justifies case for more peers

By George Clark
Political Correspondent

Mr Michael Foot, the Leader of the Opposition, issued a statement yesterday to explain the appearance of a mid-term honours list, containing 15 new life peers, six of them to sit on the Labour benches in the House of Lords.

Although the list was sent to the Queen for approval by Mrs Margaret Thatcher, the request for new peerages came from Mr Foot as long ago as last November, because he wanted to reinforce the Front Bench team in the Lords.

Yesterday, however, Mr Foot had to reckon on bitter opposition from left wingers in the party who say that since Labour is committed to the abolition of the House of Lords, no further peerages should be created at the behest of the Labour leader.

Mr Foot explained that his sole purpose in making the recommendations was to enable the party to carry out its unavoidable obligations

"They have all agreed to be full-time, active working peers and to play a full part as spokesmen for the Opposition in the House of Lords," Mr Foot said.

"I recommended their appointment because it would have been unfair to the few who have been carrying the burden so far not to have responded to requests to supplement their number.

"This in no way changes my conviction, and that of the Labour Party, that the House of Lords ought to be abolished. However, I also believe that so long as it exists and is part of the legislative process, the Labour Party cannot leave our opponents to operate the place to suit themselves without even the surveillance which Labour peers can supply."

Six former MPs: The life peerages announced today include five former Labour MPs, four of whom had ministerial experience in junior offices, and one former Conservative MP, also a junior minister. (Our Political Staff writes). Those who will go to strengthen the opposition front bench in the House of Lords are:

Mr Edward Bishop, aged 60, who was Labour MP for Newark from 1964 to 1979, having contested unsuccessfully Bristol, West, in 1950, Exeter in 1951 and Gloucestershire, South, in 1955. An aeronautical design draughtsman by profession, he was educated at South Bristol central school, the Marchant Venturers Technical College and Bristol University. He joined the Labour Party in 1936, and was a member of Bristol City Council for two periods from 1946 to 1966.

Mr Hugh Jenkins, aged 72, the former left-wing Labour MP for Putney (1964-79) who is best known as a former assistant general secretary of British Actors' Equity and a campaigner against nuclear weapons. He was chairman of the H-Bomb Campaign in 1954 and is a leading member of the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament. He took part in the Aldermarston marches from 1956 to 1960.

He was Minister for the Arts from 1974 to 1976, having formerly been a member of the Arts Council.

Mr John Mackie, aged 71, chairman of the Forestry Commission, who is a farmer. He joined the Labour Party in 1937 and after contesting two Scottish seats unsuccessfuly in 1951 and 1955, became MP for Enfield, East, from 1959 to 1974. He was a parliamentary secretary at the Ministry of Agriculture from 1964 to 1970.

Mr William Molloy, aged 62, who was educated at an elementary school and later at University College, Swansea.

He served in the Field Company, Royal Engineers, throughout the war, and was later on the control commission in Berlin. He was Labour leader of Fulham Borough Council (1959-62) and MP for Ealing, North, from 1964 to 1979. He has maintained strong links with socialists in Europe and was a member of the European Parliament from 1976 to 1979.

Mr Elystan Morgan, aged 48, who is a barrister and began his political career in Plaid Cymru. For them he contested unsuccessfully Wrexham, in 1959, and Merioneth, in 1960. He joined the Labour Party in 1965 and was MP for Cardiganshire from 1966 to 1974.

The former Conservative MP, Mr Anthony Stodart, aged 64, who was educated at Wellington College and started farming at the age of 18. He now farms at Humbie, East Lothian.

He contested Midlothian at two elections and eventually got to Parliament as MP for Edinburgh, West (1959-74). He was opposition spokesman on agriculture and Scottish affairs (1966-69) and a junior minister at the Ministry of Agriculture from 1970 to 1974.

Miss Felicity Lane Fox has a formidable record of service for the disabled and is vice-president of the Royal Association of Disability and Rehabilitation. She is herself disabled and has been confined to a wheelchair since the age of 12. She is 62.

Mrs Trixie Gardner, aged 54, is a member of Westminster City and the Greater London councils as well as being British chairman of the European Union of Women. She stood as a Conservative parliamentary candidate in two general elections, at Blackburn in 1970 and North Cornwall in 1974, but was defeated.

Mrs Beryl Catherine Platt is a qualified aircraft engineer who was recently elected vice-chairman of Essex County Council, having been chairman of its education committee.

Aged 48, she is a member of the court of Essex University and the Cambridge University Appointments Board, as well as being on the Association of County Councils and the Inner London Education Authority.

Mr Hugh Thomas, aged 49, is a close supporter of the Government and the Prime Minister and chairman of the Centre for Policy Studies, which was set up by Mrs Margaret Thatcher and Sir Keith Joseph in 1974.

Last year he won an Arts Council prize for history and was appointed a consultant director of the Conservative Research Department for international affairs.

Mrs Jane Ewart-Biggs, aged 51, is the widow of the former British Ambassador in Dublin, who was killed in a bomb explosion in July, 1976.

In 1977 she was made president of the peace people's movement in Britain. Although she has been a Labour Party supporter for many years her husband's work prevented active participation in party matters. She has been a member of the Chelsea Labour Party for three years.

Sir Desmond Plummer has been chairman of the Horserace Betting Levy Board since 1974 and was leader of the Greater London Council between 1967 and 1973.

Professor Sir Max Beloff, aged 67, is a distinguished academic and a firm supporter of Mrs Thatcher. He has been a supernumerary fellow of St Antony's College, Oxford, since 1975. In 1974 he founded the University College at Buckingham, the private educational establishment, and was principal until 1979.

Mr Geoffrey Tordoff, aged 52, has worked in the chemical industry for 30 years and was chairman of the Liberal Party from 1976 to 1979.

Judge Alan Campbell, QC, has been a crown court recorder since 1976, having been called to the Bar in 1939. He is a prominent member of the Society of Conservative Lawyers and has written widely on restrictive trade practices. He is aged 63.

Decision day for Coin Street puts question mark over inquiries

By John Young
Planning Reporter

Mr Victor Radmore, a mild mannered surveyor, faces an unenviable task this morning. As the inspector in charge of the inquiry into the redevelopment of the Coin Street site in London, he must decide whether to try to proceed as scheduled or to announce a postponement.

If he insists on going ahead, there is almost certain to be a repetition of last Tuesday's prolonged and unruly disruptions. If he agrees to a postponement, he runs the risk of being accused of surrendering to threats.

Last week Mr David Harter, a solicitor for the main group of Waterloo residents opposed to the scheme, put the position with surprising frankness. "The only alternative to postponement is to hold the inquiry behind police lines", he said.

Perhaps sensing that his statement might be misconstrued, he added that it was not intended as a threat.

Few of his clients would have any such inhibitions. They have made clear that they intend to stop by any means the inquiry going ahead until after next month's Greater London Council elections, after which they expect a victorious Labour majority to scrap the scheme.

Their attitude and tactics have serious implications for the public inquiry system. The same might have been said during the equally rowdy demonstrations at several motorway inquiries five years ago, but there is an important difference.

The motorway objectors were protesting at the Government's determination to bulldoze its way through, and at its position as both advocate and judge. In the case of the Coin Street proposals, the Government is not directly involved, and the opposition is essentially political.

According to the protesters, the Conservative majority at County Hall is abusing its powers and acting against the interests of the council's constituents in promoting a commercial redevelopment in conjunction with Greycoat Commercial Estates.

They are particularly incensed by the council's attempt to complete the sale of its landholdings on the site to Greycoat before the elections.

But what is worrying impartial observers is the Labour Party's stated intention to change the evidence submitted to the inquiry if it regains power next month.

Evidence, it is said, should be prepared by council officers on an impartial basis. For an inquiry to be told this month that a scheme is in the best interests of the community, and next month that it is unacceptable, is absurd.

Some protesters are undoubtedly long-standing local residents who genuinely share Lambeth council's view that the land, instead of being sold to a developer should be used for housing and public amenities.

But others appear to be outsiders whose main interest is in opposing private property developers. Many of the same faces have been conspicuous at the inquiry into the Hay's Wharf project, a mile or so down river.

In sharp contrast to Lambeth, Southwark council has backed both schemes, even though its Labour majority is still more strongly entrenched.

"The Coin Street debate is not really about planning at all, but about land values", Mrs Ann Ward, deputy leader of Southwark council, says. "As a good socialist, I should say that I am against artificially inflated land values, and I would very much like to see more housing and fewer offices on the banks of the Thames.

"But we have got to be realistic. To put housing and light industry on these prime sites would be economic nonsense.

"The housing would be impossibly expensive, and the factories are not what is needed. Children growing up in these areas are going to want white collar jobs.

"Coin Street has been derelict for 40 years. If this scheme is prevented, there will not be any housing built instead, because there is no money to build it. The place will just stay derelict."

MPs opposed to the expulsion of Mr Sands

By Richard Evans
Political Staff

MrM Francis Pym, Leader of the Commons, said last night his consultations with the main parties at eWstminster "have shown that it is the present general view of the House of Commons that no action should be taken" to expel Mr Robert Sands, the H-block hunger-striker, from the House.

He said he had had a number of discussions during the day and would be reporting to the Cabinet today on what should happen after Mr Sands's election as MP for Fermanagh South Tyrone.

As expected Mr John Silkin, Labour's shadow Leader of the House, and Mr David Steel, Liberal leader, indicated that they were strongly against expelling the hunger-striker, on the ground that it would give the IRA a propaganda victory.

Mr Steel favours a review of the legislation on qualifications for election candidates.

Although Mr James Molyneaux, the Official Ulster Unionist leader, is strongly in favour of expelling Mr Sands, it is unlikely that he will initiate such a move, given the views of the main parties.

Editor of 'Sun' on leave for six months

Sir Larry Lamb, editor of *The Sun*, will take six months' leave after Easter, during which he will be replaced by an executive from a rival newspaper, it was announced last night.

Mr Kelvin McKenzie, night editor of the *Daily Express*, will be acting editor of *The Sun* during the six months. Mr Peter Stephens, former editor of the *News of the World*, will take over as editorial director of News Group Newspapers Ltd, owners of *The Sun*.

The changes were announced by Mr Rupert Murdoch, chairman of News Group.

Nine Scots on terror charge

Armed police guarded Glasgow Sheriff's Court yesterday when nine Scotsmen were charged with conspiring to aid the Ulster Volunteer Force or another unknown organization. All had been in custody since their arrest under the Prevention of Terrorism Act a week ago. They were again remanded.

Government hope on output, with warning over pay

By Hugh Noyes
Parliamentary Correspondent
Westminster

Mr Leon Brittan, Chief Secretary to the Treasury, opened the second reading debate on the Finance Bill in the Commons yesterday with a warning that the Government would be demanding further substantial reductions in wage increases in the next pay round.

Without that, he told MPs, there would be little hope of reversing the decline in the competitiveness of British industry. But he went on to give one of the most optimistic forecasts for economic prospects in the year ahead that have been heard recently from Treasury ministers.

With Mr Peter Shore, Labour's economic spokesman, firmly dissenting from this sudden blossoming of hope, the Chief Secretary declared that there was at last some hard evidence to support the forecasts that the fall in manufacturing output might be over.

Figures published during the day, he said, showed that in February manufacturing production recorded a rise in output of one per cent, while total industrial production rose by 0.75 per cent.

Mr Brittan told the House that the measures in the Budget enabled the Government to look at the coming year with greater confidence.

The annual inflation rate had fallen from the peak of 22 per cent to 12½ per cent in February and the underlying rate was about 10 per cent. Inflation was forecast to fall into single figures early next year.

Pay settlements had also decelerated and the trend was firmly in single figures in manufacturing industry, compared to 16 per cent last July.

Since last August underlying average earnings rose by 0.7 per cent a month, less than half the increase of a year ago. Output, Mr Brittan predicted was likely to be on a rising trend during the coming financial year.

Housing starts, which were so often forerunners of recovery in the past, rose sharply in January and February, and the House builders' Federation was reported to be optimistic about prospects for this year.

While accepting that not too much weight should be placed on one month's figures, Mr Brittan felt that the indicators were encouraging.

Most observers expected to see some upturn in the world economy this year. But the Chief Secretary said that did not mean that unemployment would begin to fall immediately.

It was only realistic to expect unemployment to continue rising for some time yet. The faster that inroads were made into inflation, the earlier a fall in unemployment could be expected.

Mr Brittan added that the Government remained committed to reducing the burden of taxation as soon as circumstances allowed.

On a less happy note, he made clear, to the evident discomfiture of many Tory backbenchers, that the Treasury was likely to stand firm on its controversial proposals for raising the duty on petrol and derv.

Mr Shore said the Treasury appeared to live in a curious world of make-believe. This was, he declared, a perverse and misconceived Finance Bill.

The Finance Bill was later given its second reading by 30[illegible] votes to 253, a Government majority of 56.

Parliamentary report, page 1[illegible]

200 protest at choice of Stansted

By Arthur Reed
Air Correspondent

The battle for Stansted as the site of the third London airport opened yesterday when an inspector appointed by the Government held a preliminary meeting of all the parties that will be involved at the planning inquiry which he is to conduct in September.

About 200 members of the 130 local bodies that are objecting to the choice of Stansted held a silent protest with banners outside the town hall at Saffron Walden, where the preliminary meeting took place.

At the meeting the British Airports Authority, which plans to develop Stansted to accommodate 15 million passengers a year initially, and representatives of the objectors indicated the line that their evidence will take when the main inquiry opens.

The main inquiry is expected to last between nine and 12 months and to cost up to £4m.

Opposition to Stansted as the third airport is being marshalled by the North West Essex and East Herts Preservation Association, which has raised more than £100,000 to fight its case.

The association said yesterday: "Two previous inquiries proved convincingly that Stansted is the wrong place for this scale of development.

"The airport authority's case disguises the wide and destructive impact such expansion of the airport would have

Pupil profiles unlikely to oust exams

By Diana Geddes
Education Correspondent

The replacement of examinations by a system of pupil profiles was unlikely in the foreseeable future, HM Inspectorate of Schools told the Commons Select Committee on Education, Science and the Arts yesterday.

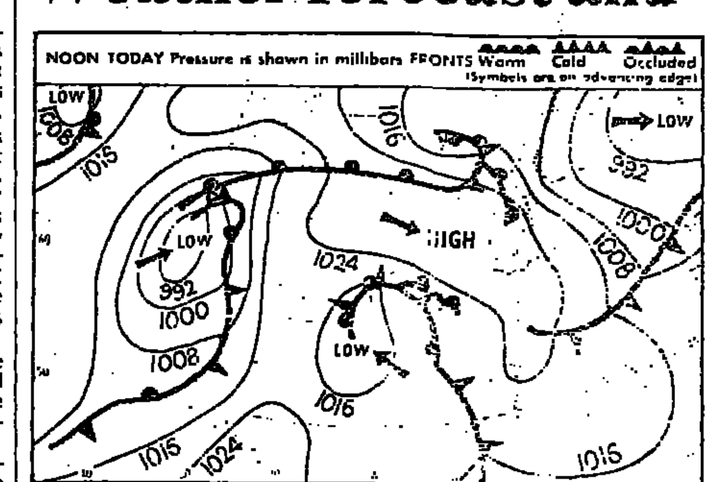
Mr B. C. Arthur, staff inspector with special responsibility for secondary schools, said there was nothing revolutionary about the ideea of abolishing examinations for pupils at 16-plus: it had been suggested in the Norwood report of 1943.

There was no doubt that the present examination system was "a pretty crude measure of what youngsters achieve". But he thought profiles would complement, not replace examinations.

Miss Peggy Marshall, chief inspector for secondary schools, said she saw no possibility in the short term of examinations "withering away".

Asked by Mr Christopher Price, chairman of the select committee, whether it would not take at least ten years for local authorities to be able to offer a minimum guaranteed common curriculum to all pupils, Miss Sheila Browne, senior chief inspector, said she thought that was "probably realistic".

Weather forecast and recordings



b—blue sky; bc—half clouded; c—cloudy; o—overcast; f—fog; d—drizzle; h—hail; m—mist; r—rain; s—snow; th—thunderstorm; p—showers; pr—periodical rain with snow. Wind speed in mph.

Today

Sun rises: 6.08 am Sun sets: 7.55 pm
Moon sets: 4.42 am Moon rises: 2.41 pm
Full moon: April 19.
Lighting up: 8.25 pm to 5.35 am.
High water: London Bridge, 10.39 am, 6.2m; 11.34 pm, 6.1m. Avonmouth, 4.25 am, 10.4m; 5.12 pm, 10.8m. Dover, 8.51 am, 5.4m; 9.11 pm, 5.6m. Hull, 3.46am, 6.0m; 4.05 pm, 6.2m. Liverpool, 8.49 am, 7.6m; 9.28 pm, 7.8m.
1ft = 0.3048m 1m = 3.2808ft

An anticyclone will persist over the North Sea but troughs of low pressure will cross Britain.

Forecasts for 6 am to midnight:

London, Midlands, N Wales: Mostly cloudy, outbreaks of rain, hill fog; wind SE, moderate to fresh; max temp 10° to 12°C (50° to 54°F).

SE, central S, SW England, Channel Islands, S Wales: Rain, perhaps heavy at times, fog patches, brighter in places later; wind SE, mostly moderate; max temp 11° to 14°C (52° to 57°F).

East Anglia, E, NW, central N England, Isle of Man, N Ireland: Mostly cloudy, occasional rain, chiefly in S; wind SE, fresh; max temp 9° to 12°C (48° to 54°F).

Lake District, SW, NW Scotland, Glasgow, central highlands, Argyll, Moray Firth: Dry, mostly sunny; wind SE, moderate; max temp 10° to 13°C (50° to 55°F).

NE England, Borders, Edinburgh, Dundee, Aberdeen: Dry, mostly sunny; wind SE, moderate or fresh; max temp 8° to 10°C (46° to 50°F).

NE Scotland, Orkney, Shetland: Dry, sunny intervals; wind variable, moderate; max temp 8° to 10°C (45° to 50°F).

Outlook for tomorrow and Thursday: Little change, dry and sunny in N, occasional rain in S.

Sea passages: S North Sea, Straits of Dover, English Channel (E), St George's Channel: Wind E, strong locally, gale at first, veering SE, moderate or fresh; sea very rough, becoming moderate.

Irish Sea: Wind SE, moderate or fresh locally, strong at first; sea moderate or rough.

Yesterday

London: Temp: max 7 am to 7 pm, 13°C (55°F); min 7 pm to 7 am, 10°C (50°F). Humidity, 7 pm, 62 per cent. Rain, 24hr to 7 pm, a trace. Sun, 24hr to 7 pm, 0.1hr. Bar, mean sea level, 7 pm, 1,026.9 millibars, falling.
1,000 millibars = 29.53in.

WEATHER REPORTS YESTERDAY MIDDAY: c, cloud; f, fair; r, rain; s, sun.

		C	F			C	F			C	F			C	F
Akrotiri	f	21	70	Cologne	[illegible]	16	61	Lisbon	f	16	61	Nice	s	[illegible]	[illegible]
Algiers	c	18	64	Copenhgn	s	11	52	Locarno	[illegible]	19	66	Oslo	s	12	54
Amsterdm	f	12	54	Edinburgh	f	8	46	London	[illegible]	11	52	Paris	f	17	63
Athens	[illegible]	15	[illegible]	Florence	[illegible]	21	70	Luxembrg	c	17	63	Reykjavik	c	8	46
Barcelona	c	[illegible]	[illegible]	Funchal	f	13	61	Madrid	c	16	61	Rome	s	20	68
Beirut	[illegible]	18	[illegible]	Geneva	f	[illegible]	70	Majorca	c	16	61	Ronldsway	[illegible]	[illegible]	38
Belfast	[illegible]	9	48	Gibraltar	f	19	66	Malaga	c	18	64	Stockholm	c	10	50
Berlin	c	16	61	Guernsey	f	10	50	Malta	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	Tel Aviv	f	18	64
Bermuda	c	21	70	Helsinki	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	Manchester	[illegible]	11	52	Toronto	c	10	50
Biarritz	f	[illegible]	[illegible]	Innsbruck	[illegible]	22	72	Miami	f	28	82	Venice	s	19	66
Bristol	c	12	54	Istanbul	s	13	[illegible]	Montreal	[illegible]	13	55	Vienna	s	20	68
Budapest	s	22	72	Jersey	[illegible]	13	54	Munich	[illegible]	22	72	Warsaw	f	20	68
Cardiff	c	9	48	L Palmas	c	20	68	Naples	s	22	72	Zurich	s	20	68

Overseas selling prices
Austria Sch 25; Bahrain BD 0.450; Belgium B Frs [illegible]; Canaries Pes 100; Cyprus 450 mils; Denmark Dkr 6.00; Dubai Dhr 7.00; Finland Mkk 5.50; France Frs [illegible]; Germany Dm [illegible]; Greece Dr 60; Holland Gl [illegible]; Iran [illegible]; Iraq ID 0.400; Irish Republic [illegible]; Italy L 1100; Jordan LD 0.425; Kuwait KD 0.350; Lebanon LL 4.00; Luxembourg Lf [illegible]; Madeira Esc [illegible]; Malta [illegible]; Morocco Dir 6.00; Norway Kr 6.00; Oman OR 0.700; Pakistan [illegible]; Portugal Esc 60; Qatar [illegible]; Saudi Arabia SR [illegible]; Singapore [illegible]; Spain Pes 100; Sweden Skr 7.00; Switzerland S Frs 3.00; Syria [illegible]; Tunisia Din 6.00; US and Canada $1.50; UAE Dir 7.00; Yugoslav Din 50.

All subscription rates on request.

George Medal award for PC Lock and embassy siege rescuer

By Our Political Staff

Police Constable Trevor Lock, of the Metropolitan Police, and one of the Special Air Service Regiment soldiers who also fought terrorists in the siege of the Iranian Embassy in April, 1980, have been awarded the George Medal for gallantry.

Four other SAS men, including the officer who led the team in what is described in the citation as "a brilliantly carried out rescue", are awarded the Queen's Gallantry Medal.

None of the SAS men is named, for security reasons. The awards will probably be handed to the men by the Queen.

Pc Lock was on duty at the Embassy when he was confronted at the entrance by a man with a machine pistol.

He tried to close the door and there was a struggle in which he was injured by flying glass and overpowered. Six terrorists then burst into the Embassy firing their weapons at the walls and ceilings, and 26 other people were taken hostage.

Although he was searched, Pc Lock successfully kept his revolver hidden during the five days and nights of the siege.

During that period, the citation says, "Constable Lock was on self-appointed duty with very little sleep, food or drink and remained cool and calm, with the result that he gradually built up a rapport with the terrorists.

"This had a calming effect on the terrorists and his fellow hostages on more than one occasion when, but for his intervention, the hostages' lives might have been lost." He was also continually called on to negotiate with the authorities outside the embassy.

On the sixth and final day the atmosphere became extremely tense. The gunmen set a deadline for their terms to be met, and during the morning one of the hostages was killed and his body placed outside the embassy.

Moments before the rescue assault, PC Lock, alone with the terrorist leader, was called to the telephone. He heard breaking glass and a loud explosion, and realizing the operation had begun, shoulder charged the terrorist.

The gunman was caught off-balance and his weapon fell to the floor. During a struggle PC Lock overpowered him, drew his revolver and covered the man. An explosive device thrown into the room forced the two men apart, but the constable recaptured and held the gunman until the soldiers burst in.

"Constable Lock displayed gallantry and devotion to duty of a high order when, in spite of the long strain and ordeal of his capture, he tackled and overpowered this armed man, who had already caused the death of one hostage", the citation concludes.

The unnamed soldier who also receives the George Medal was in the first wave of rescuers from the roof, but he found himself suspended ten feet above a balcony when his abseil device jammed. His comrades threw assault grenades into an adjoining room, which rapidly became an inferno because inflammable material had been strewn there.

He was badly burnt by flames billowing out from the window and, while in considerable pain, had himself cut loose and fell to the balcony. He then entered the building.

The citation states that "without doubt the successful rescue of the majority of the hostages was due to his quick thinking, his courage and personal example". Regardless of his injuries and the fire raging on the second floor, he continued to lead his men "with coolness and decisiveness".

The officer in charge receives his award for reconnoitring and organizing the plan, which called for split-second timing to ensure minimum casualties among the hostages.

The citation says he displayed "personal courage, leadership and tactical brilliance of the highest order. He inspired not only his own men but also the police by his example, calmness and good humour".



Police Constable Trevor Lock: "Gallantry and devotion to duty."

Whitehall brief: Why 95 per cent of defence budget is devoted to containing the Soviet Union

Russian leaders face some sharp choices throughout the next decade

By Peter Hennessy

What is the intelligence estimate of the Soviet Union's intentions and capabilities that lies behind Britain's defence spending in this the thirty-sixth year of the cold war that developed between Russia and the Western allies from the moment Hitler's Germany was defeated?

It is an intriguing question to ask the day before the Government's annual defence White Paper is published and at a time when the Ministry of Defence is in the throes of a thoroughgoing review of its commitments as the country's poor economic performance places the defence budget under pressure.

Governments of both parties have taken the potential Soviet menace seriously since 1945. Britain has consistently devoted a higher proportion of its gross domestic product to defence than any of its Nato allies except the United States.

A good place to start is with a "top secret" Chiefs of Staff Comittee document declassified in January which surveyed "the Spread of Russian Communism" less than a month after the outbreak of the Korean War in 1950.

Here, as in the United States, the Korean conflict caused the cold war mould to set hard, very largely determining the shape of the West's defence posture ever since. The paper prepared by the chief's joint planning staff in August, 1950, summed up the Soviet intention: "The Russian aim in cold and hot war is to establish a communist world dominated by Moscow".

Defence spending in Britain as a percentage of gross domestic product (at factor cost) since the onset of the cold war
(Figures supplied by Mr Robert Clements, statistical section, House of Commons Library)

Percentage of gdp: 18, 16, 14, 12, 10, 8, 6, 4, 2
1946 48 50 52 54 56 58 60 62 64 66 68 70 72 74 76 78 80
Berlin airlift — Nato founded — Outbreak of Korean War — Korean War ends — Suez and Soviet invasion of Hungary — Sandys White Paper — Cuban missile crisis — Healey Defence Review — Mason defence Review — Soviet invasion of Afghanistan
UK accepts Nato plan to increase defence spending by 3% a year until 1985

The planners listed four methods by which the Russians had extended their control since 1945:

By supporting a coup d'état by pseudo-constitutional means as in Czechoslovakia;
By political pressure as in Poland;
By the support, either directly or indirectly through satellites, of communist rebellions as in China;
By Russian-inspired military aggression as in Korea.

The document ends by listing 25 places and areas whose loss in the cold war would have important strategic consequences for the West.

What would a comparable paper produced inside the Ministry of Defence look like today? It would be more sophisticated, less monolithic in its view of communism's many varieties but still, in its way, menacing in offering a clear explanation of why 95 per cent of the country's defence budget is even now devoted to containing the Soviet Union.

The Russia watchers in Whitehall reckon that the Soviet Union is motivated by both expansionist and defensive impulses. The leadership in Moscow, according to their assessment, continues to believe in the historical inevitability of Marxism-Leninism triumphing all over the world under Soviet guidance, though the Kremlin sets no time limit on its achievement and remains obsessed, in the light of history, with the need to protects its own homeland from invasion.

The Whitehall intelligence community has not been affected by the "revisionist" debate about the origins of the cold war that has flourished, particularly in the United States, since the mid-1960s. Revisionists emphasize the defensive roots of Moscow's foreign policy, but Whitehall analysts are convinced that the Russians believe that the most effective way of protecting the heartland is to have strong capability for offensive attack to ensure that any future war is not fought on their own soil, a perspective for which the revisionist case is of little relevance.

British intelligence can produce a depressing picture of a Soviet Union continuing to devote between 12 and 14 per cent of its gross national product to defence, having reached a position of equivalence with the United States on nuclear weapons and with the strong possibility that many of the innovations in military technology in the 1980s will come from Russian rather than American laboratories. It can also produce an alarming list of missiles, tanks, aircraft and ships that poured out of Soviet factories last year.

Defence intelligence analysts have been accused by some insiders familiar with their product of overdoing the Soviet threat, thereby raising the risk of defeatism. The Russians simply cannot be that good, effortlessly extending their power over all quarters of the globe. They must have their difficulties too, the dissenters maintain.

The intelligence community would agree about Soviet weaknesses and believes the Russian leadership is going to be faced with some sharp choices in the 1980s. They point to Russia's poor economic performance and lack of productivity outside its military procurement industries, it worries about its ethnic minorities, its satellites and above all, China. The Central Intelligence Agency estimates that Russia will become a net importer of energy by 1985-86.

Are we doomed to watch West and East continuing to equip themselves with bigger and better weapons in the next 10 years, each acting in the mirror-image of the other, alarmed by rival intelligence agencies ferrying unrelievedly bad tidings?

The Whitehall branch of the world intelligence establishment is not convinced that we are, and is adamant that if there was to be a softening of Soviet attitudes, it would swiftly pick them up and convey the good news to the decision-makers.

By next year, Whitehall intelligence believes, there could be some revealing pointers. Will the Soviet Union relax a little after its recent surge to improve its intercontinental ballistic missiles and decide to devote more of its resources to consumption and preparing for its threatened energy gap? Or will it react to a quickening of military procurement in the United States under the Reagan Administration by launching another upward spiral in its weapons technology?

Finally, does British intelligence believe war with the Soviet Union is likely in the next decade? The answer is "no", provided Nato keeps up its nuclear shield, no doubts occur about the United States commitment to Western Europe and there is no breakup of the alliance.

In the meantime, Russia will, Whitehall reckons, continue to try to tilt the strategic balance in its favour in the disposition of military, economic, political and technical forces by all means short of war.

Challenge on smoking by Dr Owen

Dr David Owen yesterday accused successive governments of having cravenly refused to challenge two powerful commercial interests, the tobacco and alcoholic drinks industries. He called for a determined, scientifically based strategy to reduce drastically cigarette smoking and excessive drinking.

Dr Owen, Social Democrat MP for Plymouth, Devonport, delivering the Lord Cohen Lecture to the Royal Society of Health's annual congress in London, said: "It might be felt to be foolhardy for a Social Democrat so early to challenge two potential sources of industrial funding for a new political party; so be it.

"Smoking causes lung cancer, chronic bronchitis and coronary artery disease, which now have an incidence of epidemic proportions. About 500,000 people in England and Wales have a serious problem with alcoholic drink, and in Scotland the situation is proportionately much worse.

"Smoking and drinking to excess do not affect only the individual; they affect many who suffer discomfort from cigarette smoke or from drunken behaviour: they affect the families of those who die and the state financially through its provision of health services and widows' pensions."

He recalled that in 1975, when he was Minister for Health, the Labour government agreed to consider using the Medicine Act to combat the promotion and sale of tobacco.

He said that under the provisions of the Act health ministers might specify controls on products

Climber killed

A man climbing with a party died yesterday after falling 40ft from Raven Crag, Borrowdale, in the Lake District. His body was found in a ravine.

In brief

£70,000 damages for cyclist

Mr Trevor Budgen, an amateur cycling champion, who had to give up the sport after losing his right leg in an accident, was awarded £70,000 agreed damages in the High Court in London yesterday.

Mr Budgen, aged 33, of Birch Close, Crawley Down, West Sussex, was riding to a race when a car ran into him. The damages were awarded, by consent, against Mr Clive John Bingham, of Landseer Road, Brighton, the driver, who denied liability.

Priest fined for theft

Father Morris Naudi, aged 66, a Roman Catholic priest, of St Anselm and St Celia's Church, High Holborn, who admitted stealing an umbrella and a scarf valued at £10.65 from the Army & Navy Stores, Victoria, London, was fined £10 by magistrates at Horseferry Road court yesterday.

Sir Peter Hayman

Sir Peter Hayman and Lady Hayman arrived home at Checkendon, Oxfordshire, yesterday. They left for France when he was named in the House of Commons as the former diplomat who had been interviewed by police officers investigating child pornography activities.

£400m road pledge

Work on the £400m scheme to create a dual carriageway between Chester and Bangor will go ahead despite reports to the contrary, Mr Michael Roberts, Under-Secretary of State at the Welsh Office, said yesterday. He was opening the £5.6m Dolgellau by-pass.

Viaduct repairs

British Rail is spending £500,000 on renewing the 30 worst affected piles in the Barmouth viaduct, in Gwynedd, which is being attacked by marine boring creatures. It will ask the Welsh Office and the Department of Transport for the remaining £1.2m needed.

Sex shop sentence

Alfred Hunter, a sex shop owner, aged 39, of Quarry Park Road, Exeter, was freed on bail pending an appeal, by magistrates at Exeter yesterday after he was fined £1,000 and jailed for three months for possessing obscene articles for gain.

Runaway bear shot

One of four brown bears which escaped on Sunday from the Loch Lomond wildlife park was shot for "safety reasons" yesterday. Two were caught and one was found back in its enclosure, fast asleep.

Workman's fatal fall

Mr Anthony Nightingale, of Barnham, West Sussex, died in hospital yesterday after falling 25 feet from scaffolding while carrying out alterations to the Oxford Museum of Modern Art.

Marina fire

Five motor cruisers were seriously damaged in a fire at Quay West Marina, Poole, Dorset. The general manager said he suspected arson.

Surgeon fantasy by clerk

From Our Correspondent
Leamington Spa

A young hospital clerk's fantasy to become a surgeon led him to steal more than £3,000 of medical equipment to set up an operating theatre in an attic.

Magistrates at Leamington Spa, Warwickshire, yesterday placed Stewart Wilkinson, aged 17, of Armslote, Stratford-on-Avon, on probation for two years. He had admitted stealing scalpels, oxygen cylinders, trolleys, chemicals and hundreds of surgical instruments.

Mr Wilkinson, who was ordered to pay £125 costs, had told the court that he had built the attic surgery at a girl friend's home and used it to carry out experiments on animals.

The magistrates recommended that he should continue to receive medical treatment.

500 in steelworks protest

From a Staff Reporter
Leeds

About 500 steelworkers from the private sector company, Hadfields, Sheffield, are to meet Labour MPs at the House of Commons today to discuss the plant's future.

Mr Michael Adams, works convener, said last night that the men were satisfied that Mr Ian MacGregor, chairman of the British Steel Corporation, intended to close Hadfields with the loss of 2,600 jobs once the company agreed to merge with the Steel Corporation in what has become known as Phoenix II, a plan by the BSC and the Department of Industry to restructure the steel industry in Britain.

The men, travelling in 10 coaches, will attempt this afternoon to lobby Conservative MPs to ask if it is Government policy to sanction the closure of private steelworks.

Court challenge to SDP over name of party

From Our Correspondent
Leeds

The Social Democrats face a court fight to make it change its name. Writs are to be served today on about 25 people, including the "Gang of Four", alleging that they "purloined" the SDP tag.

Later this week the High Court in Manchester will be asked to issue an interim injunction against the party members, including Mrs Shirley Williams, Mr William Rodgers, Mr Roy Jenkins and Dr David Owen, to stop them using the name.

The plaintiff is a left-wing party formed in March, 1980, called the Social Democratic Party. It has put up candidates in elections in Sheffield, Manchester and Glasgow. A Manchester barrister, a member of the original SDP, is filing the claim.

Yesterday their spokesman, Mr Douglas Parkin, who is standing as an SDP candidate in Bailey in next month's county council elections, said: "It is our registered party name. Our Manchester barrister had talks with 'the gang' before they launched their party.

"But all we have seen in the press was all sorts of suggestions for their title. It was not until March 26 that they announced their name. As a result we are taking action."

Mr Parkin, aged 42, of Birstall, near Leeds, a supervisor at a homeless single parent centre, added: "I am standing as a SDP candidate in the county elections. I am told that the other SDP is fielding about six candidates in Yorkshire and Humberside. It could be confusing, because we have no connexion with them."

A spokesman for the new SDP said last night: "We are seeking legal advice".

Labour plan for industry to revive rural areas

More industry and better public transport for rural areas were urged yesteday in a rural revival programme by the Labour Party's national executive.

More than 60 recommendations were put forward in a statement by the executive after a conference in York aimed at helping rural areas.

As well as a significant expansion of light industry geared to local resources and local needs and radical improvements in the public transport network, the statement calls for efforts to retain village schools.

A general increase in expenditure on public services and free installation and rental of telephones for the elderly in need, the disabled and the chronically sick are also recommended.

A widening of the scope and an increase in the financial resources of the Development Commission, encouragement of the National Enterprise Board and the Cooperative Development Agency to become involved in rural projects were also urged, together with the appointment of a coordinating minister for rural affairs.

The statement, *Out of Town, Out of Mind: A Programme for Rural Revival*, says the greatest and cheapest potential rural job creation exists in light industry. "Small, localized projects would be able to blend into the countryside while satisfying the limited employment needs of a small community", it said.

"Experience shows the benefits quickly spread to the remainder of the village and start off a total revival."

The statement also made recommendations on rural housing policy, including the need for more rented housing, the use of empty property and action for areas of high second home ownership.

Striptease performers seek better working conditions

By Martin Huckerby
Theatre Reporter

Striptease performers were professional entertainers who needed protection from exploitation by agents and employers, the annual meeting of Equity, the actors' union, was told yesterday. A motion seeking improved treatment for such performers was overwhelmingly approved.

Miss Paula Tinker, a dancer, the proposer of the motion, said the conditions in public houses and many clubs were appalling, but it was the agents who were responsible for most of the ills. They treated the girls "like cattle".

As well as improved dressing room and other facilities, she said, protection was necessary "if need be from over-enthusiastic customers, but predominantly from agents and employers". She complained of agents who took more than 20 per cent commission and others who ran protection rackets.

Miss Tinker also mentioned that people in Equity thought she ought not to raise the issue of striptease performers. To loud applause she said: "They are the same as we are: they are performing; they are entertaining".

Miss Annie Lewis, a striptease dancer, said there was increased pressure on performers; agents in the London area had such a monopoly that the girls did not dare to complain if anything went wrong.

She also spoke of violence by customers and of a lack of protection by public house and club managers.

The motion seeks talks with club managers, agents and representatives of public house licensees to obtain contracts, professional fees and improved conditions for striptease performers.

At the meeting, in London, Equity also condemned the attempt by Mrs Mary Whitehouse and others to prevent performances of the National Theatre play, *The Romans in Britain*.

With only one dissenting voice, the meeting gave support to Mr Michael Bogdanov, who directed the play.

Joblessness 'increasing heart disease'

From Our Correspondent
Glasgow

The effect of unemployment on coronary heart disease had been significant, Dr David Player, director of the Scottish health education group which is carrying out studies on the relationship, said yesterday. The results of the studies will be known in October.

Dr Player told a news conference that coronary heart disease among people in Scotland was the highest in Britain. Deaths from the disease among Scottish males were the highest in the world. Unemployment was having a serious psychological effect.

Sir John Brotherstone, former Chief Medical Officer for Scotland, who recently retired from the chair of community medicine at Edinburgh University, said that stress was a significant factor as unemployment spread.

People also tended to smoke more, and under domestic financial uncertainty they smoked their cigarettes to the bitter end, inhaling more of the damaging tars.

"Government economic policy which leads to mass long-term unemployment, such as that from which Scotland is suffering, is killing people and causing serious psychosomatic illness," Miss Isobel Lindsay, the Scottish National Party spokeswoman on health, said.

The party's health policy committee recognized that the level of unemployment in Scotland brought more than financial hardship and social distress, but the increase of more than 180,000 unemployed in the last five years would lead to a significant increase in illness and deaths among the unemployed and their families.

Miss Lindsay announced that the party would sponsor a conference in Glasgow this year on unemployment and health. Trade unions and political parties would be invited.

Fears of renewed violence at Easter 'solidarity' rally

By David Nicholson Lord

Fears grew yesterday of a renewed confrontation with police next weekend when black leaders plan to organize a mass "solidarity" rally involving representatives from 25 towns and cities.

The rally is to be held on Easter Sunday in a community centre near Brixton police station. Mr Rudy Narayan, convener of the newly formed Brixton Defence Committee which is organizing it, denied that this could lead to fresh violence.

Mr Narayan a prominent black barrister, said the black communities of Brixton were determined to launch a massive defence campaign for those arrested, both political and in the courts. He spoke of black people "perhaps for the first time facing the crisis with racism".

He added: "We believe the time has come for the black community to act as one. We are not going to break the law. We are going to act peacefully and lawfully. The rest is up to the police".

In the aftermath of the disturbances many community leaders were strongly critical of police tactics at the weekend and bitter that past warnings about growing tension in Brixton had been ignored.



Mr Rudy Narayan: "A crisis with racism."

The Rev Robert Nind, Vicar of St Matthew's, Brixton, for 12 years described some young police officers' attitudes towards blacks as "mindblowing". He accused the police of setting up an arena for confrontation in central Brixton and destroying the prospect of normality by cutting off the area from the outside world.

Mr Nind said that at 2.30 pm on Sunday he and the Right Rev Ronald Bowlby, Bishop of Southwark, had asked the police to withdraw their main strength as there was no longer any threat to law and order. "They just drew up their shoulders and said 'We never withdraw'."

The charge of outside influence in the violence made by Sir David McNee, the Metropolitan Police Commissioner, was also fiercely denied although one community worker acknowledged the pull of increasing militancy among local blacks.

Mr Ivan Madray, a senior youth club worker at the Railton community centre, said: "Sir David has brought in policemen from outside the community who do not know a damn thing about the area or about the feelings of the people in it. That is the only outside influence that matters."

Mr Madray, whose youth club is surrounded by the charred ruins of buildings at the lower end of Railton Road, scene of Saturday's riots, said there are many people from both political extremes living in the area.

He said: "They are people who are ready for battle. They congregate here because they know there are helpless youths here whom they can easily spur on. They are giving the kids the message to stand up for their rights and to fight for their rights. They say you have to wage a war, some say a political war. When you have a group of disillutioned and depressed people anyone can come in and offer them sweets. Hungry people take sweets. These are the things we are fighting against."

Much of the radicalism is associated with the offices of *Race Today* magazine, on a side street off Railton Road. Mr Darcus Howe, the editor, was not available for comment yesterday

Many left wing groups, including the Revolutionary Communist Tendancy and the Labour Party Young Socialists, moved into Brixton yesterday to announce press conference or publicized campaigns. They were dismissed contemptuously by local blacks. Copies of the newspaper *Militant*, organ of the Trotskyite Militant Tendancy, were lying about in the offices of the Brixton Defence Committee—brought in by "freaks", according to one scornful member of the committee.

Many complaints about police behaviour have been made to the defence committee. They have been accused of deliberately creating confrontation and seeking violence

Mr Narayan said: "Police committed enough crimes on Sunday night to lock up 100 policemen on riot charges themselves.

"We totally reject Sir David McNee's fabrication that outsiders came to Brixton. The only outsiders were McNee's stormtroopers, the Special Patrol Group, some armed with guns, who came to attack and terrorize our community."

One injured youth, Ricky Lawrence, aged 17, of Brixton, was alleged to have been with a group of about 100 youths caught between two lines of police in a narrow alleyway. He was taken to hospital with head and arm injuries.

Mrs Patricia Poole, a white housewife, of Coldharbour Lane, said Ricky had gone with her son and other friends as onlookers to the town centre on Sunday evening.

They found themselves in a group of youths, black and white, who were herded into a narrow alley with mounted police at one end and officers carrying dustbin lids at the other. The lights in the alley went off—the youths were told to lie down on their faces.

Mrs Poole said her son, who was 13 and very skinny, had bumps on his head from being hit by a dustbin lid and had his coat ripped off. "He said they kicked him so hard his legs were lifted off the floor." Ricky Lawrence had 14 stitches in his head, but had been taken from Kings College Hospital where she had sen and talked to him, to Brixton Police Station.

Wayne Sanson, aged 17, of Camberwell was with them. He said police started "laying into everyone with dustbin lids, truncheons, and torches".

Photograph by Bill Warhurst

'It would have ended quickly if the Bill had gone away'

By John Witherow

Andrea Thomas and Simone Norman (above) are young, black, restless and typical of the hundreds of people who set Brixton ablaze over the weekend. They are also adamant that the black community was not to blame for the trouble: "The tension got bad but it would have ended if the Bill (the police) had gone away. If the police were not around there would be nothing to riot against. We don't want violence and violence is pushed upon us".

Perched on a front wall in a street close to Railton Road, now a scene of desolation after Saturday night's rioting, they recounted stories of how they had been insulted by the police. They said they had been taunted about being poor, about their colour and appearance and police had shouted comments at them such as "Thank God I'm homosexual".

Despite being aged only fourteen and sixteen, both had left home because they want to be more independent and now live in a hostel for the homeless in Brixton. They were born in the South London district and apart from a brief spell in neighbouring Clapham have lived all their lives there.

Their thinking shows signs of confusion and anger: "People want to destroy the shops to show them we love Brixton so much". The riot was also nothing to do with racialism, they said. There were black and white people involved in the fighting and most of the anger was simply directed against the police.

Their talk though is full of warnings for the future: "All we want is to be treated as equals. We've had enough of the police. All we know", Andrea said, "is that there's going to be another time and it's going to be worse".

Brixton starts to count the cost

By David Nicholson-Lord, Sarah Segrue, Nicholas Timmins, and John Witherow.

Britain's first opportunity to count the cost of the riots, in terms of injuries, wrecked buildings, and disrupted public services came yesterday.

It was the day of the dustcart and the demolition cranes as shopkeepers and residents got back to work—and worried about who was to pay the bill.

Some of the insurance assessors touring the area estimated the cost of the damage as £2m or more, and as the local Chamber of Commerce said it would be having an urgent meeting with Mr Ted Knight, ledaer of Lambeth Borough Council, about compensation.

Mr Leonard Winchester, secretary of Lambeth Chamber of Commerce, with about 250 members, many of whom were smaller shopkeepers in the Brixton area, said he feared many would leave.

"The pressing question is of insurance cover", he said. "Many insurers have different exclusion clauses, covering riots and civil disorder." He understood that the police might pay for compensation if it was accepted that the damage was due to riot. "We need clear guidelines on that", he added.

"It's disastrous. After the huge rate increases of the past three years, the supplementary rate of 37.5 per cent, and this rioting, who on earth in their right minds would want to stay in Brixton?

"They [the small shopkeepers] are all examining their leases to see how many months or years they have got to run."

With thousands of pounds of stock gone, he said: "Six years we have spent building up this business, and it's all gone in one evening.

"We pay £147 a week rates for this frontage, 4ft by 24ft. It's more expensive than Oxford Street. Lambeth spends thousands of pounds on community relations, and look what it's done for us." They, he said, would not be paying their rates.

At the Dolcis shoe shop, Mr William Williams, the manager, said hundreds of pounds worth of stock and his window had gone. He pointed to a collecting box for the blind that had contained perhaps £50. "They smashed that open and threw it outside. You would think they would leave that."

In Electric Avenue, the centre of Brixton's street market of 35 shops, only half a dozen escaped damage and looting.

Mr Piers O'Connor, who lives above a ransacked jeweller's shop, said the shop's owner, who was aged 60, was cut about the head and shoved as he tried to defend his stock.

"They came in waves", he said. There were mothers and children among them. Occasionally a car would pull up and shovel two or three televisions in the back and push off again, the police were just ineffective."

As a small army of council workers towed away wrecked cars and vans and cleared tons of rubble, twisted railings, and broken glass from the streets, many shops stayed shut and the only good business was done by the scores of plate-glass window firms replacing many thousands of pounds worth of smashed windows in almost a hundred shops.

Some of the bigger stores took a more sanguine view than Mr Winchester. Mr Richard manager of Woolworths(said: "Of course we are going to stay."

As the store—subject to two arson attacks, heavy looting and a fire—carried on business, he said: "We have had a disturbance by several hundred criminals but certainly we are going to stay."

The disturbance was not racial, he said. "It is thuggery that caused this. It is attributable to the same thuggery we had in Bristol. A fortnight ago that happened, and here we are again."

For many of the smaller shops the destruetion is something they may not be able to ride. At least three small jewellers', as well as two chain jewellers', were ransacked, and in one instance the shop was destroyed after a petrol bomb attack.

Mr Descond Gunns, who with his brother runs a jewelry and camera shop at the entrance to Reliance Arcade, off the main road, said: "We are ruined unless the insurance companies pay up."

In Railton Road, by the scene of the worst confrontations with the police, Dr Mohammed Khan, who has practised there for five years, said he intended to leave.

With all his surgery windows smashed and everything turned upside down, he said: "It is just a question of finding a place.

A surveyor for Watneys, examining the burnt out remains of the George publicg house, said of the Saturday night trouble: "The staff were threatened with knives.

"They beat up the tenant's wife and actually poured petrol on the tenant and tried to set fire to him. They threatened to cut off his wife's fingers unless she gave up her rings."

The announcement by Mr Whitelaw, the Home Secretary, that compensation for the damage done would be paid under the Riot Damages Act, 1886, did not mean that the Metropolitan Police are admitting liability for the riot, the Home Office said.

The Act allows for claims for damage to houses, shops, or buildings, or property in the premises which has been "injured, stolen, or destroyed, by any persons riotously and tumultuously assembled together", and the compensation is a charge on the police rate. It does not, however, cover damage to vehicles.

Claims from private individuals and companies have to be made to the Metropolitan Police receiver within 14 days of the incident on a form that Office. Those seeking compensation for personal injury will have to approach the Criminal Injuries Board.

The injuries and damage in Brixton included:

☐ A total of 143 policemen taken to hospital, of whom nine are still detained;

☐ One policeman, Police Constable Dennis Ozols, still unconscious with a fractured skull suffered on Saturday night. Condition "serious";

☐ At least 30 people, other than policemen, treated in hospital;

☐ One girl, attempting to flee the riot area, was raped, according to Scotland Yard.

☐ The total of arrests was put at 199.

☐ Twenty-six premises damaged by fire, including three public houses, five houses, and two boutiques. A total of 76 shops and homes were seriously damaged, and 31 shops and houses slightly damaged.

☐ Sixty-one police vehicles damaged, four of them write-offs; 19 private vehicles damaged by stones and fire; windows smashed in three coaches used by police.

☐ Postal services in Brixton area disrupted. Sub post-office in Railton Road destroyed by fire, work at sorting offices at Brixton and Stockwell "seriously disrupted"; deliveries and some collections likely to be affected.

National Front man among whites and blacks fined and bailed

By Staff Reporters

As several buildings in Brixton still smouldered yesterday, the courts opened hearings against people accused of a variety of offences arising from the riots.

At Horseferry Road, Leslie Roberts, a swimming instructor, who says he is a member of the National Front, was among seven whites and 14 coloured appearing in court.

Roberts, who was fined £40 for swearing at police, blamed the police for the troubles and claimed the youths who went on the rampage sought "revenge" for the death on Saturday of a young black who was stabbed in Railton Road on Friday. [In fact, Scotland Yard said yesterday that the man, Mr Michael Bailey, was in St Thomas' Hospital and was likely to be discharged shortly.]

Another white, Nicholas Ouis, a 23-year-old butcher of Portland Street, Walworth, was fined the maximum of £50 after admitting threatening behaviour. He was said to have thrown stones at the police after going to his employer's shop in Brixton Hill after the premises has been looted.

A third white, Richard Pearce, aged 48, of no fixed address, was remanded in custody accused of assaulting police.

Eighteen other men and women were remanded on bail, variously charged with assault on police, threatening behaviour, possession of offensive weapons and other offences.

Mr Kenneth Harington, the magistrate, banned some of the defendants from Railton Road as a condition of bail, and bound over others to keep the peace. All but three of the 21 live in Brixton or the surrounding areas.

Those banned from Railton Road were: John Frederick, aged 21, a carpenter, of Gordon House, Battersea, accused of theft and assaulting police; Andrew Cairns, aged 26, a jobless white, of Barnwell Road, accused of stealing; Ronald Pilgrim, aged 23, a salesman, of Regina Road, South Norwood, using insulting words and behaviour; Norris White, aged 44, unemployed, of St Agnes Place, Kennington, accused of having an offensive weapon, and Donald Facey, aged 29, a record promoter, of Melbourne Grove, East Dulwich, accused of using threatening words and throwing a missile.

The five, together with Owen Westcar, aged 22, a youth worker, of Mayall Road, Herne Hill, who is accused of assaulting police and having an offensive weapon, were also ordered to live at their own addresses.

Paul Reynolds, aged 31 and unemployed, of Mayflower Road, Brixton, was given unconditional bail. He is accused of trespass with intent to steal.

Nigel Button, white, aged 26 and unemployed, of Lingham Street, Brixton and Michael Spence, aged 22, a fitter of Lancaster Gardens, Fulham, were given unconditional bail. They are accused of having a brick as an offensive weapon.

O'Neil Crooks, aged 17, a labourer, of Leander Road, Brixton, accused of using threatening behaviour, throwing stones, stealing a police jacket and assaulting a policeman, was granted bail and bound over to keep the peace.

A white woman, Bruna Bafoot, aged 25, a housing adviser, of Buckleigh Avenue, Morden, Surrey, was accused of threatening behaviour and having an offensive weapon. She was given unconditional bail, as was Michael Carty, aged 20, a painter, of Teckford Road, Stockwell. He is accused of having an offensive weapon and assaulting police.

Tyrone Kum, aged 18, a clerk, and Montague Walters, aged 17, a printer's apprentice, both of Marston House, Overton Road, Stockwell, were both accused of assaulting police. They were granted bail and bound over to keep the peace.

Also granted bail were: Cuthbert Louis, aged 17 and unemployed, of Clapham North, accused of threatening behaviour; Maxine Barnet, aged 18 and unemployed of no fixed address, accused of theft; Tona Davis, aged 19 and unemployed of Overton Road, accused of theft and Linford Michael, aged 23, a motor mechanic of Long Lane, Southwark, accused of entering with intent to steal.

Forty-six people appeared before Camberwell Magistrates on similar charges—including having a car as a weapon. Most were from Brixton and South London, and nearly all were remanded on bail.

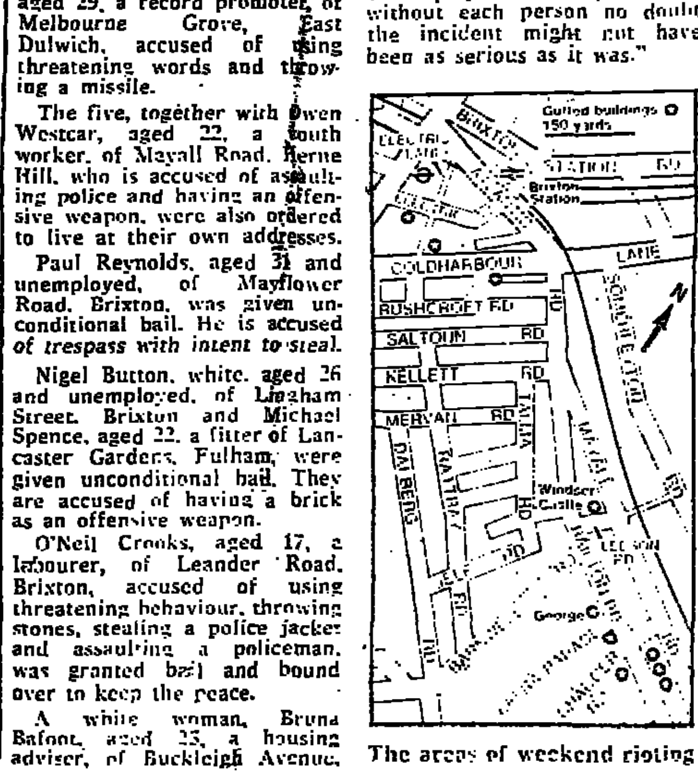
A further nine people were brought before South Western Magistrates. Two were dealt with, four remanded on bail and three remanded in custody—one a girl of 17 who had to be restrained by policemen when she tried to leap from the dock.

The two dealt with, an unemployed white man, aged 21, and an 18-year-old black secretary, each admitted using threatening behaviour. They were fined £200 and £250 respectively and bound over.

He was William Cawston of Brixton. Det Sergeant Ben Batley said Cawston was among a group of 150 youths in Railton Road and was seen throwing bricks at police cordons.

Cawston denied hurling bricks. He said they were only small stones. Det Sergeant Batley said: "Over the two-day period some 200 police officers have been injured, some seriously. Some are still in hospital and some are resting at home. Many injuries have been caused by missiles that hit them on the head."

Miss Dawn Freedman, the magistrate, passing sentence said: "Each person who was involved in this appalling incident played their part, and without each person no doubt the incident might not have been as serious as it was."



The areas of weekend rioting

TUC wants more help for jobless

By Staff Reporters

Trade union leaders are demanding a big increase in government spending in inner-city areas to reduce unemployment among young blacks in the wake of the Brixton riots.

Talks on a TUC initiative were held at Congress House last night between national and regional officials, and local leaders of the Lambeth and Greater London trades councils, after Mr Len Murray, TUC general secretary, made his appeal for funds.

Describing the riots as "a sad reflection of Britain", Mr Murray said: "Following the incidents at St Paul's, Bristol, the TUC warned the Home Secretary about the disproportionate effects of the recession on the black communities".

He said the Government should "make a commitment to support, with adequate resources, the regeneration "of Brixton

Mr Kenneth Gill, chairman of the TUC Equal Rights and Race Relations Committee, said the riots was a "blind protest against appalling conditions and antagonism between the community and the police".

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Photograph by Harry Kerr

One of the 107 black policemen in the Metropolitan Police on duty in a devastated area of Brixton with a white colleague. Outside London, the forces with most officers of black and Asian origin are the West Midlands (47), Greater Manchester (17) and Leicestershire (12). There are only six on Merseyside.

Policing and crime

Why we stop black youngsters

By Stewart Tendler
Crime Reporter

"It may well have not happened last weekend but it was bloody well going to happen sometime". For one middle-ranking policeman with experience in and around Brixton the past few days came as no surprise.

As far as the outside world is concerned realization dawned with the devastation, looting, and barrages of missiles. To the police it was the point at which a steady drip turned to a torrent.

It has been a standing rule in the area for some years that policemen patrolling in uniform or plain clothes travel in pairs.

The Friday and Saturday night patrols to the big dance halls in Streatham at the top of Brixton Hill are undertaken with caution. The appearance of the blue uniforms at the edge of the black dancers often brings a heightened atmosphere and the risk of a bottle flying out from the crowd.

It adds up in the middle-aged officer's mind to an area "very hostile to police, hostility not only from the people who live there but from the local authority as well".

Like many police officers, this man saw a distinct difference between white and black in relation to the police. "There is almost an inbred tendency for the coloured people to believe they ought to be able to do their own thing", he said.

That difference alone might bring difficulties, but the ingredients in the melting pot include Brixton's crime rate. —50 to 60 robberies a week which is double those of the next worst area in London and, nationally, the highest street robbery rate.

Last autumn Scotland Yard sent in a special squad of 150 detectives and uniformed men to fight street crime in the Brixton area.

In November, 1980 robbery cases dropped from 68 in some months a year year before to 33 while handbag snatches fell from 47 to 35 and other types of "snatch" robbery from six to two. At the same time burglaries over the month fell by 20 per cent.

Sixty per cent of those arrested were white while the rest were coloured.

The officer said many of the robberies were the work of black youths and the arrests for burglaries "once again shows a predominance of black youths committing them". Given that situation, "you have a natural tendency for police officers to look towards black youths as a source of crime. That is why you get a situation where the police stop black youngsters".

In 1978, for example, 77 per cent of the people arrested were black and there have been claims of discrimination from a community that makes up less than a quarter of the Lambeth borough population.

The law is now being repealed after a Commons subcommittee of the Home Affairs Committee examined the legislation last year.

Sir David McNee, the Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police, has defended its use, pointing out that "there was no reason to doubt the validity of police arrest rates for certain street offences including suspected persons".

The questions over the use of the "sus" law in the Lambeth area were followed by a highly critical local report earlier this year on general policing methods. The independent inquiry warned in January that action had to be taken to avoid an eruption like that at St Paul's, Bristol, a year ago.

A working party, headed by Mr David Turner-Samuels, QC, found "the conditions of community/police relations in Lambeth is extremely grave. This situation is created by the nature of the police force and basic policing methods.

The police did not take part in the inquiry which, they felt, would not produce an impartial report. Ttestimony was submitted by 275 groups and individuals.

It was clear to that policeman yesterday that the young men who do much of the policing in such inner city areas are in difficulties. "It takes", he said "years of experience to get the right attitude to deal with everyone and everybody, to turn it on for one and off for another."

With few older men to advise him a young officer—constables can be on the streets from the age of 19—may find himself in a dilemma. Tension may inhibit or encourage over-reaction. Attitudes can be sharpened by the memory of a recent fight or a complaint.

"The public at large expects its policemen to be all things to all men from the very first day. They make no exceptions", he said, "whether the man is young or mature. They see the mature man as the norm which does not give the young man much chance to manoeuvre."

In the past in Brixton the men on the street have been supported by the Special Patrol Group vans. The use of the SPG, which has been accused of heavy-handed tactics, was the centre of argument but the police felt the extra presence achieved its end. "They did not arrest any arch-villians", the policeman said yesterday, "but they dampened down activities and the crime rate dropped."

In the aftermath of the weekend the use of the SPG is likely to be raised again. There may well be calls for better community relations and more coloured policemen.

As for coloured policemen? The officer yesterday said: "One coloured officer I knew never had any problems from whites but had a lot of problems with blacks. He would not any more abuse, he would not get any less and would be deemed a traitor."

Thereare in fact, 107 black and Asian police officers serving in the Metropolitan Police, out of a total of 286 in England and Wales, the Home Office said yesterday. Those 286 compare with a total of 117,000 police officers in England and Wales (Peter Evans writes).

Mr Leon Brittan, Minister of State at the Home Office, said on November 3 in reply to a parliamentary question: "Chief officers of police share my wish to increase the number of police officers from the ethnic minorities. A special advertising campaign has just begun in the ethnic minority press and will continue for some months. This follows a similar campaign early last year."

A report in 1972 of the Select Committee on Race Relations and Immigration expressed concern about the low numbers, describing them as "only a handful" and called on the Home Office to study again the recruitment of black and Asian officers to see what encouragement could be given.

The report said: "The police traditionally represent the population of which coloured people now form a significant part. They sholud therefore be represented, at least roughly, in relation to their numbers."

In 1972, there were just 38 black and Asian officers in England and Wales, 13 of them in the Metropolitan Police.

Home Office statistics do not show before 1967 how many black and Asian officers there were in the Metropolitan Police; in that year there was only one.

Before then, the feeling was that such officers would not be familiar enough with British ways to be able to enforce the law, let alone exercise discretion, the greatest power a policeman has.

Later, it became apparent that there was some resistance within the black community, in particular, to joining the police. The select committee noted that West Indians commonly expressed the fear of being labelled as "traitors" or "Uncle Toms" by their communities, stemming from a view of the police as part of an anti-coloured Establishment.

The select committee foresaw that coloured recruitment would not greatly improve while many young West Indians saw the police as instruments of oppression and while many Asian parents judged police service here by the standards of the police service in other countries.

Recent recruiting aimed directly at people of black or Asian background is regarded as disappointing. When the campaign began there were about 30 black and Asian officers in the force. Nevertheless, the Home Office figures show that numbers grew to 71 in 1976. The latest total given by the force is "about 110".

Since 1975, there has been no direct appeal for black and Asian recruits, though they have been featured in publicity material, including recruitment literature.

The most senior officer of West Indian or Asian background is Inspector Ron Hope, who is of Guyanese origin. He went to school in Watford and began police work in Lewisham. As a sergeant he took a course at the Police College, Bramshill.

When the latest recruitment campaign was launched on October 23, 1975, Sir Robert Mark, who was then Commissioner, said: "The only colour we recognise is blue."

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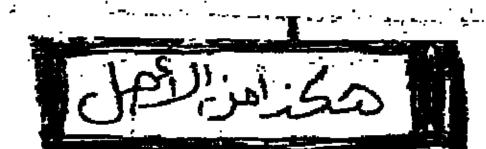
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Hint of rail strike action if pay offer is not improved

By Donald Macintyre
Labour Reporter

British Rail, which yesterday dismayed union leaders with a 7 per cent pay offer, was last night facing mounting cancellations of Sheffield and Manchester services because of industrial action over a planned freight line closure.

Union leaders representing 180,000 British Rail workers reacted sharply to the annual pay offer tabled in national talks in London. They are to consult their executives before resuming negotiations on Thursday.

All three unions emphasized at the talks that they were seeking increases of not less than the levels close to 13 per cent awarded to miners and workers in the utilities.

Mr Charles Turnock, assistant general secretary of the National Union of Railwaymen, said after the talks that he could "see our members taking strike action if British Rail do not move from where they are at the moment".

The separate dispute over BR's intended closure of the transpennine Woodhead tunnel freight line escalated sharply after NUR members began to carry out the union's instruction not to collect fares on trains between Manchester and Sheffield this week.

By last night most Inter-City services between Sheffield and London, with services between Sheffield and New Mills in Derbyshire, had been cancelled.

About 80 Sheffield-based guards came out on strike when one of their colleagues was sent home for refusing to collect fares on the 5.40 am Sheffield to New Mills pay train.

After a similar suspension of a booking clerk at Marple station, east of Manchester, at midday, signal box staff near by struck, halting busy eastbound commuter services to New Mills, and to Glossop and Hadfield.

Last night British Rail said that the services were likely to be cancelled again today. About sixty staff at the Manchester end of the line had been suspended by the end of the day.

British Rail, which is closing the 42-mile Woodhead tunnel line to save £2.5m a year, argues that it is no longer needed. The NUR fears that passenger services might eventually be affected.

With losses of up to £80m expected for 1980, British Rail has been reminding union leaders that Cabinet ministers are discussing BRs recent claim for a £5,670m increase in investment over the next nine years.

Mr Clifford Rose, BR's director of industrial relations, said he hoped industrial action would not be considered, because it was entirely counter-productive.

Wife defies mob attacks on fortified home

From Christopher Thomas
Belfast

Mrs Ann Fitt slotted two heavy iron bars across the inside of the front door and retreated into the living room, which is darkened by bullet-resistant windows.

Every day her old terrace house in north Belfast is bombarded by bottles, bricks or abuse. The heavy front door, covered on the inside by bullet-proof plastic, is pockmarked and gouged from the brickbats that rain on it most nights.

And yet the wife of Mr Gerard Fitt, Independent MP for West Belfast, smiles defiantly: "They will not drive me out. I cannot really explain why; perhaps it is something to do with having a duty to people".

The telephone rings incessantly. In the hall there is a pile of cards with the number written on by hand, and there cannot be a street, in west or north Belfast, whether Protestant or Roman Catholic, where somebody does not have Mr Fitt's number.

A camera surveys you from high above the front door as you ring the bell. There is an intercome designed your identity, but it looks decidedly out of order. Wire stretches across the vulnerable points.

The housing executive has put a compulsory purchase order on it and the Fitts have to pay rent. Perhaps it will be redeveloped, perhaps not, but they are staying.

Mrs Fitt is something of a legend in Belfast. She has brought up five daughters; four are in England, soon the fifth will be away to university in London, if the A level results are good enough.

"What happens", she explained, "*is that the mothers* go to bingo at night, the fathers go to the club, and the children come and stone us. Most times it's fun for the children, but at times of high emotion they really mean it."

The election to the Commons of Mr Robert Sands, the Provisional IRA hunger-striker, last Friday was such a time.



Mrs Ann Fitt yesterday: "They won't drive me out".

They came with an impromptu band, banging, blowing hammering at the door until 3 the next morning, all because Mr Fitt is outspoken against the IRA.

"I would not say much for their musical talent, but they sure could toss a brick", she chuckled. The bombardment went on for 10 hours. Mr Fitt was in London and the police did what they could. But the fires were burning all over north and west Belfast as Roman Catholics rejected.

But Mrs Fitt is not one to fuss too much, as long as nobody breaks into the house. In 1976 they did. The battered front door lay splintered on the hall as a gang burst in to be greeted by her husband, waving a pistol at them from the top of the stairs.

"Jesus, I was frightened", said Mrs Fitt, who is recovering from a broken leg after a fall at home. "*That was a night all right.*" She hobbled back to her chair and chuckled again.

Reagan campaign aide denies political aim in Khmer Rouge visit

From Patrick Brogan
Washington, April 13

Dr Ray Cline, who was an adviser on foreign policy to Mr George Bush and then to Mr Ronald Reagan during last year's *election campaign*, crossed the Cambodian frontier from Thailand last November and visited a refugee camp directed by Mrs Ieng Thirith, wife of the Khmer Rouge leader, Mr Ieng Sary.

He said here this afternoon that he told Mrs Iieng that he was interested in the refugee question only, that he did not represent President-elect Reagan and that she must not draw false conclusions from his presence.

[In Cairo today Mr Ieng Sary, Deputy Prime Minister of the Khmer Rouge "Democratic Kampuchea", told a press conference that Dr Cline had visited his group on a *mission* of information (Agence France-Presse reports). He denied that the Khmer Rouge were getting any military assistance from Washington but expressed hope that the Reagan Administration would eventually take steps to support the movement].

Dr Cline said the camp's population was almost entirely women and children. Mrs Ieng welcomed him and expressed delight in this apparent expression of American interest and sympathy. *Dr Cline believes* that the whole episode may have been designed by the Khmer Rouge and Chinese to be used as a propaganda demonstration of American *support* for the Pol Pot regime, which China supports.

Sihanouk links: Mr Sary said at the press conference that the Khmer Rouge was coming to closer political agreement with the self-exiled Prince Noradom Sihanouk and hoped that he would soon lead a united resistance movement against the Vietnamese invaders (Our Cairo Correspondent reports).

Prince Sihanouk, who is in Pyongyang, North Korea, has not yet revealed all his terms for accepting the leadership. But Mr Sary said four of the five conditions already set by the prince had been agreed, and the fifth was being considered.

Mr Ieng Sary listed the agreed conditions as: changing the country's name from Democratic Kampuchea to Kampuchea; changing the flag and national anthem; the prince's right to *form his own* armed forces; and the establishment of a parliamentary system after the withdrawal of Vietnamese troops.

The fifth condition, he said, was that after Vietnamese withdrawal the entire *resistance* movement would be disarmed.

Mexico and America fall out over El Salvador

From Stephen Downer
Mexico City, April 13

Almost two months into the Ronald Reagan presidency, predictions that the chief executive would not see eye to eye with President José López Portillo of Mexico on foreign policy are being proved correct.

Señor López Portillo, in a series of statements over the past two weeks, has criticized the Reagan Administration's policies in El Salvador, not to mention that of the Kremlin in Poland.

On the day of the assassination attempt against Mr Reagan, President López Portillo was asked to comment on the incident. His reply was couched in diplomatic terms and expressions of sympathy for the wounded President. But in the light of subsequent comments, it is being seen now as a criticism.

"*I'm concerned* because it was unexpected, because it was absurd and monstrous and because we have said—and now it has been proved—that violance only aggravates prob

Last Monday Señor López Portillo hosted a banquet for the visiting President Luis Herrera Campins of Venezuela.

He seized the opportunity to chastise power blocks, led by the Soviet Union and the United States, for their involvement in Poland and El Salvador.

Mexico, he said, rejected "the block policy and any type of intervention, wherever it is practised and whichever country practises it".

Washington has sent about 50 military advisers to El Salvador to train the Salvadoran Army, which is fighting left-wing guerrillas and extremists from the right. The Reagan Administration has also *resumed shipments of military* hardware to El Salvador.

The next day President López Portillo made another speech in the presence of Señor Herrera, in which he condemned actions in Central America and the Caribbean "which have no more imagination than war, weapons, violence, blackmail and abuse".

An alternative to violence and foreign intervention, he said, was the continued supply of petroleum from Mexico and Venezuela to other countries in Central America and the Caribean.

The two sell 160,000 barrels to the region every day on easy credit *terms* under an agreement signed in San José, Costa Rica, on August 7, 1980.

Compromise ends strike by orchestra

By Martin Huckerby
Music Reporter

The strike by the English National Opera orchestra was called off yesterday before a performance had been halted. The management withdrew dismissal notices for five musicians whose playing was thought no longer to reach a sufficiently high standard.

The management, faced with a strike it could not afford, agreed, with some regret, to withdraw the notices as long as it could approach the five wind players to seek agreement with them to give up their jobs in return for financial compensation and guaranteed casual work in future.

The compromise was agreed after talks lasting several days between Lord Goodman, chairman of ENO, and Mr John Morton, general secretary of the Musicians' Union. It was accepted almost unanimously by the orchestra yesterday.

The ENO management is unhappy that, having followed the correct procedures for dismissals, it was prevented by the union from carrying them out.

Mr Richard Mantle, ENO personnel director, said yesterday: "It must be our right to terminate the contracts of people we do not consider to be up to standard."

Fleet Street printers' pay warning

By Paul Routledge
Labour Editor

The National Graphical Association, the main craft printing union, is to advise its 5,000 members working on national newspapers in London and Manchester to reject the "final" 8 per cent pay offer from the *Newspaper Publishers* Association.

At the same time the union is warning the NPA that it will no longer operate the disputes procedure in the industry if individual publishing companies continue to contract out of the annual round of wage bargaining.

Ballot forms will shortly be sent out to NGA members advising them to reject the offer, and some form of industrial action may ensue if the men do vote "no". Mr George Jerrom, national officer of the union, said last night: "If they follow the recommendation, we will consider that to be a mandate to go back to the NPA".

Apart from the immediate pay issue, union-*NPA relations* are in disarray over "who is in and who is out" for collective bargaining purposes. *Express Newspapers*, *Times Newspapers*, the *Mirror Group* and the *Guardian* have withdrawn from *the annual round.*

The NGA claims that News International, publishers of *The Sun* and *News of the World*, is ready to make a 10 per cent offer if national talks break down.

Cornish farm isolated after signs of foot-and-mouth

By Hugh Clayton
Agriculture Correspondent

Government scientists ordered five-mile cordons round two Cornish cattle farms yesterday because of suspected foot-and-mouth disease, but last night restrictions round one farm, near St Ives, were lifted after tests proved negative.

Samples from animals on the other farm, at Kea, near Truro, were being analyzed at the Animal Virus Research Institute at Pirbright, Surrey, and the results should be known today.

The farm is about 200 miles from the sites of recent foot-and-mouth cases in Brittany and the Isle of Wight.

Mr Robert Few, the Isle of Wight farmer who lost 166 cattle in the first case of foot-and-mouth in Britain for 13 years, visited the mainland yesterday under government licence.

The Government announced yesterday that it had paid £91,414 in compensation to farmers whose animals had been slaughtered in the campaign to prevent foot-and-mouth spreading from Mr Few's farm. The money was paid at average rates of just over £295 a cow and £44 a pig for a total of 623 animals.

All restrictions on the movement of animals and farmers in Hampshire and the Isle of Wight have ceased except on *three farms on the island where* animals have been buried to prevent the disease from spreading. The last mainland restrictions were removed last night.

Mini Metro gets safety award

By Our Motoring Correspondent

The BL Metro is the 1980 winner of the Don Safety Trophy, the leading British road safety award. It was judged "superior in several aspects to many larger and heavier cars which are inherently less vulnerable in an accident".

The judges praised the Metro for its outstanding handling qualities, all-round vision, dual circuit braking system and a degree of protection to occupants, in both front and side *impacts, going beyond* the requirements of legislation. Mr Harold Musgrove, managing director of Austin Morris, received the trophy in London yesterday from Mr Stirling Moss, the former racing driver.

Banaban Island compensation dispute is settled

By Our Diplomatic Correspondent

The long dispute between Britain and the Banaban islanders, *over compensation* for damage done by phosphate mining to their Pacific island homeland, was brought to an amicable conclusion yesterday, with the handing over of a cheque for Australian $10m *(about £5m).*

Mr Peter Blaker, Minister of State at the Foreign Office, made the payment, on behalf of the governments of Britain, Australia and New Zealand, to the Chairman of the Council of Leaders of the Fijian island of Rabi, where the Banabans now live.

Settlement of the dispute represents a notable success for the Banabans, who fought a long battle for compensation, aided by British MPs, who took up their cause.

Australian given 30 months for raping wife

From Our Correspondent
Melbourne, April 13

A man was sentenced in the Melbourne county court today to two and a half years jail for raping his wife. He was also sentenced to 12 months for assault, occasioning her actual bodily harm. The judge ordered the sentences to be served concurrently, with a minimum of *18 months before being eligible* for parole.

The jury of nine men and three women on Friday found the husband, who is 25, guilty of rape, with mitigating circumstances, and of assault. The husband had pleaded not guilty.

The offences occurred in March last year in a flat, where the wife was living with their child after a separation order two months before. She had family court orders restraining her husband.

Six Basques begin hunger strike in a cathedral

From Charles Hargrove
Paris, April 13

Six young Basque militants from Bayonne have been on a hunger strike in Bourges cathedral since Friday to protest against the transfer to Paris of three men and three women for trial by the Court for State Security. They were joined by a seventh from the Var yesterday.

They have installed themselves in the apse, with sleeping bags and bottles of water. A Bourges doctor is with them.

When they were asked why they had picked on Bourges for their demonstration, they replied: "Bourges is in the centre of France." The choice of the town was symbolic.

The presence of the hunger strikers has not interfered with services in the cathedral. Worshippers did not express only indifference towards them. Mgr Vignancourt, the Archbishop of Bourges, who came to see the strikers on Friday, has made it known that he cannot intervene as the cathedral is a public building.

The archbishop said the right of asylum had always been upheld in religious buildings. "The cathedral is a place of prayer and worship, and silence and calm must be respected. So far, the young men have observed this. As far as I am concerned there has never been any question of their expulsion by force."

But he did object to their addressing the audience of 2,500 to 3,000 people attending *a religious concert in the cathedral* last night. Arrangements were made by sympathizers for them to do this in a tent outside, after which they returned to the cathedral to resume their hunger strike.

The six French Basques transferred to Paris for trial are members of the left-wing Basque movement Abertzales. They are all aged between 22 and 25, and are accused of having carried out 11 bomb attacks against *public buildings and* private property in the western Pyrenees between June 1978 and September 1979, which caused extensive damage but no loss of life.

It is the first time that the Court for State Security has had to handle a case concerning Basque separatists.

Japan questions U S version of sea disaster

Tokyo, April 13.—Mr Mike Mansfield, the American Ambassador to Japan, said today that a navy investigator *had* arrived in Tokyo to interview the 13 survivors of the Japanese cargo ship that sank after colliding with a United States nuclear submarine.

Mr Masayoshi Ito, the Foreign Minister, said in Parliament today that he was not convinced by American explanations that poor visibility prevented the submarine and a United States Navy aircraft from extending rescue assistance.

Mr Mansfield told reporters that the incident on Thursday was the most distressing of his four years in Tokyo.

Some Japanese officials have accused the American submarine of abandoning the survivors

Mr Mansfield said Captain Willis Rich had arrived from Seventh Fleet headquarters at Pearl Harbour to begin a formal inquiry into the incident. He will interview the 13 survivors of the ship who were *rescued* by a Japanese destroyer on Friday.—UPI.

Manx hopes of restoring birch are dashed

From Our Correspondent
Douglas

The Isle of Man's hopes of bringing back the birch, banned by the European Court of Human Rights in 1978, have been dashed. Tynwald, the Manx parliament, had hopes to get round the ban by introducing its own Bill of human rights.

But now that the Bill has been published, after more than a year of talks with the Home Office, Manx government officials are having to admit that it will not restore birching.

The situation has led to an accusation that the Manx public has been misled, and a clash is expected when the Bill is discussed by Tynwald members next month.

The member in charge, Mr *Clifford Irving (Independent,* East Douglas), who is leader of the Manx Cabinet, the executive council, said that if an exemption for birching had been attempted the Bill would not have received Royal Assent.

Constituency meetings on the matter are to be held by Mr Roger Watterson (Independent, Middle). "This is not the Bill envisaged by Tynwald", he said.

Warehouse flats' historical background

Regional report

Ronald Kershaw
Hull

Round about the time that Prince Charles Edward Stuart stepped ashore in Scotland after a sojourn in France to raise his standard and lead the 1745 rebellion, Joseph Pease, a Hull merchant and commodity dealer, was standing back to admire a new warehouse at the northern end of High Street, now the oldest street in the city.

Being clearly a man of vision, he was also probably contemplating expansion, and indeed he did build a second warehouse next door 15 years later.

They were built as storehouses for oilseed, the raw material from which was extracted for Hull's growing paint industry. The buildings were the work of John Smeaton, sometimes referred to by historians *as the father of civil* engineering in Britain. Drawings of his buildings for Mr Pease are still in the Royal Society archives.

Near the warehouses he built a mill for processing the oilseed, an operation that involved what was probably the first application of steam to that kind of industrial process.

It was about that time that a big commercial boom for Hull started. It lasted throughout the nineteenth century.

It was a time when men of initiative and enterprise such as Joseph Pease were becoming *a power in the land.*

His descendants were Quakers who, like so many religious dissenters, had fled the country in the sixteenth century, the family eventually returning in more tolerant *times to allow Joseph to be*come a wealthy and powerful businessman.

The two Pease warehouses are the only surviving monuments to his success and today even they have changed shape.

The buildings had stood derelict for many years and were in a fairly poor condition, notwithstanding their immense structural strength, when Mr Ben Hooson, a builder and developer, approached Hull City Council into whose ownership the warehouses had passed, with a suggestion that they should be converted into flats.

Agreement was reached and today is the opening of the first phase of the conversion scheme. It comprises 15 flats, of one or two bedrooms, for lease or sale. The second phase, to be opened later in the year, is of 80 flats, and a third phase, probably 30 flats, still at the planning stage, will be accommodated in a warehouse next door to the Pease buildings.

The first two phases will cost £700,000 (the first phase, £35,000) and the Historic Buildings Council has made a grant of £73,000 towards the total *cost of the project. Mrs Jennifer* Jenkins, chairman of the Historic Buildings Council, and wife of Mr Roy Jenkins the politician, will perform the opening ceremony for the first flats today.

The first occupants will have a view of a busy barge and lighter harbour from their new homes on the west side of the River Hull.

For many years High Street and the Old Town generally were in a state of decline, but now at the initiative of the city council a revival is being seen.

The Queen's Dock, built in 1778, was converted to Queen's Gardens some years ago, but since then up to £20m is being spent, or is planned to be spent, on bringing back life to Old Town.

Museums are being expanded, a new crown court is to come, and bars and restaurants are being opened in former commercial premises.

The waterfront hotel and club is an example of the conversion of three nineteenth-century grain warehouses, a project that *has won several* conservation awards, including the Europa Nostra award.

Another big scheme, on which £2m of preparatory work has started, is the conversion of the Old Town Docks into a marina. The *city council* expects to have a commercial partner in that project by late summer, with a view to opening the marina in early 1983.

A tale of two candidates with much in common but a difference in style

By Peter Strafford

Is France on the brink of collapse, or is it in the forefront of progress and an example to its neighbours? Both views can be heard as the French presidential election gathers steam, depending on whether one *listens* to President Giscard d'Estaing, who talks of French successes, or to one of his opponents.

M Jacques Chirac, the Gaullist candidate, is one of those who talk as though disaster was imminent. He was himself Prime Minister until 1976, when he broke with the President, whom *he* now accuses of presiding over a drastic weakening of France's position, both internally and in its relations with other countries.

By contrast, M Giscard d'Estaing points to the industrial achievements of the last few years, and produces a list of sectors in which France is ahead of its competitors in other European countries. He accuses his rivals of demoralizing the country by their criticisms of its performance.

The two men have a great deal in common. Both are articulate products of the highest levels of the French educational system, both have *made their political careers* under the Fifth Republic, and both are extremely ambitious. But their temperaments are very different, and their differences are reflected in their personal styles.

M Chirac is a compelling speaker who electrifies his supporters. A few nights ago at a rally in Lyon he was cheered time and time again as he denounced the damaging effects of unemployment in France and





criticized the present Government for weakness in its dealings both with other members of the European Community and with the Soviet Union.

He has been taking his message round France in an active and well-organized campaign, planned on American lines. At a big rally like the one in Lyon there are posters proclaiming "Chirac now", coloured balloons, and banners carried by supporters with the names of the regions they come from.

M Chirac's supporters are people who want to protest—Gaullists who are disenchanted with M Giscard d'Estaing, small businessmen, professionals and farmers. He knows what they want to hear, *and they* cheer him when he says it.

By contrast, M Giscard d'Estaing is a more reserved man who does not have the same rapport with his audience. He seems strained as he appears on the platform, and in the earlier stages of his campaign he was apt to bore his listeners with long lists of statistics.

But he, too, is running a very *professional* campaign, and when he was in *Montpellier* recently he was received enthusiastically. The hall where he spoke was packed with supporters; and he himself was apparently aware of the criticisms that have been made *because he spoke forcefully* and cogently.

The evening began with an elaborate slide show, accompanied by music, which illustrated the crisis points round the world and went on to present France as an oasis of calm and technological progress. Then came M Giscard d'Estaing himself with a fighting speech in which he castigated *his* opponents and defended *his* own policies.

A Communist rally is different again. M Georges Marchais, the party's candidate, is not likely to survive the first round of the elections, but he wants to make sure that no one ignores the party's power. So last weekend he organized a huge rally at an outdoor stadium in Marseilles, a Socialist stronghold, to show what he could do.

Party members arrived at the stadium en masse, marching along the boulevard which led to it with red banners, red scarves and red flags. The stadium itself, with a capacity of more than 40,000, was almost filled.

M Mitterrand, who might well win the election, appears in his campaign style the least polished of the four main candidates. He is a *fiery speaker* when he chooses, but there was something almost avuncular about him when he spoke at a rally in Dijon last Sunday, leaning over the pulpit and raising his voice only for certain key passages.

WRAC college to be merged with Sandhurst

By Henry Stanhope
Defence Correspondent

The Army will take another pace towards integration of the sexes on May 1 when the Women's Royal Army Corps College is to be officially merged with the Royal Military Academy Sandhurst.

There is close liaison, official and unofficial, between the two institutions, which are only just over a mile apart at Camberley, Surrey.

Now the Army's man and woman officer cadets are to join for 100 sessions during each course, for instruction in subjects such as Army organization, military tactics, law and administration. But drill and weapon training will not be included for the time being.

A WRAC spokesman said last night: "We are looking for controlled evolution rather than sudden change." The girl cadets will travel by bus for their *joint session at Sandhurst* from their own building, which has been occupied by the corps for its trainee officers since 1965.

There is no suggestion that the WRAC cadets should be found new permanent accommodation on the Sandhurst campus. "We would never be able to cope with all the recruits", a WRAC officer said.

The Royal Military Academy, which is among the world's most celebrated training establishments, consists of three colleges, known as Old, New and Victory. The WRAC College will in effect become the fourth, retaining its title.

Part of the college where woman NCOs and Territorial Army officers attend courses will remain separate from the RMAS.

Husband on murder charge

Ulf Hinsch, aged 42, husband of Frau Jeanette Maria Hinsch, aged 28, whose body was found five and a half years ago on the edge of Watership Down, was accused yesterday of her murder.

Mr Hinsch, a company director, of Orion Way, Braintree, Essex, appeared in Basingstoke Magistrates' Court handcuffed to a police officer. He was remanded in custody until next Tuesday.

Acquittal of last four Bristol trial defendants

The four remaining defendants in the St Paul's riot trial were formally acquitted when they appeared at Bristol Crown Court yesterday.

The hearing lasted about five minutes. Mr Justice Bingham directed a verdict of not guilty to be entered on Paul Binns, aged 18, and Andrew Minter, aged 17, both of Ashley Road, St Paul's, Doretta Dolores Maye, aged 25, of Princess Street, Bedminster, and Carlton Canute Sharp, aged 17, of Argyle Road, St Paul's, all Bristol.

A jury had failed to reach a verdict on the four after a seven-week trial which ended on March 20. Eight other defendants were cleared. All 12 *defendants had pleaded not* guilty to riotous assembly after disturbances after a police raid on a café in Grosvenor Road, St Paul's, on April 2 last year. Miss Maye alone was further charged with maliciously wounding *a police constable.*

Yesterday Mr John Spokes, QC, for the Crown, said: "After careful consideration the prosecution has decided it would not be in the public interest to proceed to a further trial."

Dr Soares retains control of Socialists

Lisbon, April 13.—The Portuguese Socialist leader, Dr Mario Soares, tonight claimed success in retaining control of his party, the country's biggest opposition force.

The former prime minister called a news conference after partial results of election for a party congress next month indicated he would have the support of more than 70 per cent of the delegates.

His opponents had proposed keeping him as party secretary-general because of his prestige inside and outside the country. But they blamed him for losing two general elections and wanted to strip him of most of his power.

Dr Soares said his victory meant there would be a clarification of party policy which would exclude cooperation with the pro-Moscow Portuguese Communist Party.

He said the party's main aim would be to recapture moderate voters lost to the right over the past five years.

The Communist Party had openly supported the opponents of Dr Soares, who included more than half the 66 Socialist Members of Parliament.

The outcome of the power struggle within the Socialist Party is of vital importance for the ruling Democratic Alliance. The Social Democratic Party of Señor Francisco Pinto Balsemão, the Prime Minister, has indicated that it would like to run joint lists with the Socialists in next year's local elections.

Some left-wing opponents of Dr Soares in the party accuse him of planning to help the Democratic Alliance push through constitutional changes in exchange for the support of the right in the 1985 presidential elections.—Reuter.

Col Gaddafi proposes Mauritania merger with Sahara Republic

Paris, April 13.—Colonel Gaddafi, the Libyan leader, proposed today that Mauritania should merge with the republic proclaimed in the contested Western Sahara by the Polisario Front guerrillas, according to Libyan radio monitored here.

He made proposal to Mr Sidi Ahmed Ould Bneijara, the Mauritanian Prime Minister, who ended a three-day visit to Libya today. Also at the meeting was Mr Muhammad Abdelaziz, Secretary General of Polisario.

The radio said Colonel Gaddafi, who has troops in Chad and has been accused of wanting to lead a giant trans-Saharan federation, had called for a "proclamation of union between Mauritania and the Saharan Republic".

The Polisario is fighting against Morocco to set up its Saharan Arab Democratic Republic in the Western Sahara, a former Spanish colony annexed by Morocco and Mauritania when Spain pulled out in 1975.

But after a military coup in its capital in 1978, Mauritania made peace with the Polisario in 1979 and withdrew from its portion of the territory, which Morocco then occupied as well.

The radio quoted Mr Ould Bneijara as saying on leaving Tripoli that Colonel Gaddafi had promised him support to confront "the plots woven by the Moroccan regime". But he did not comment on the merger proposal.

Colonel Gaddafi had also suggested the formation of a pact with Libya, Algeria, Mauritania and the Saharan Republic as members, the radio added. But the nature of this pact was not made clear. The colonel made his proposal in the name of the Steadfastness Front—other members are Algeria, Syria, South Yemen and the Palestine Liberation Organization—of which Tripoli is at present chairman.

Also at the Tripoli meeting were Mr Walid Jumblatt, leader of the Lebanese National Movement, a coalition of leftist organizations, and Mr Ahmad Jibril, Secretary General of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine General Command, one of the hard-line Palestinian guerrilla groups.

The Libyan leader invited Mr Jumblatt's movement, Mauritanian and the Saharan Republic to join the Steadfastness Front, the Libyan radio added. He also called for the "expulsion of the Sudanese regime from the Arab League and the Islamic Conference Organization" for having "recognized the Egyptian regime and thus the Zionist enemy".

Colonel Gaddafi's 12-year rule in Libya has been marked by several attempts at political unity with other Arab and African states, including Syria and Chad in the past year. None of the attempts has thus far borne fruit.

Mission to Morocco: The two leading officials of the Organization of African Unity (OAU) arrived here today for talks with King Hassan II on the Western Sahara conflict.

President Siaka Stevens of Sierra Leone, the OAU chairman, and the organization's secretary-general, Mr Edem Kodjo, are to present the King with the official text of recommendations made last September by the OAU special committee on the Western Sahara.

These called for a ceasefire in the conflict by December, 1980—which did not take place—and an OAU-United Nations referendum allowing the Saharan people to decide their future.—Agence France-Presse.

John Young (left) talks to Vice-President Bush from the shuttle. He told him: "The spaceship is performing beautifully."

Tiniest of space shuttle defects will be spotted

By Pearce Wright
Science Editor

A new network of optical tracking stations for taking photographs of spacecraft being introduced by the United States Department of Defence is being used to examine the heat shield on the belly of the Columbia space shuttle.

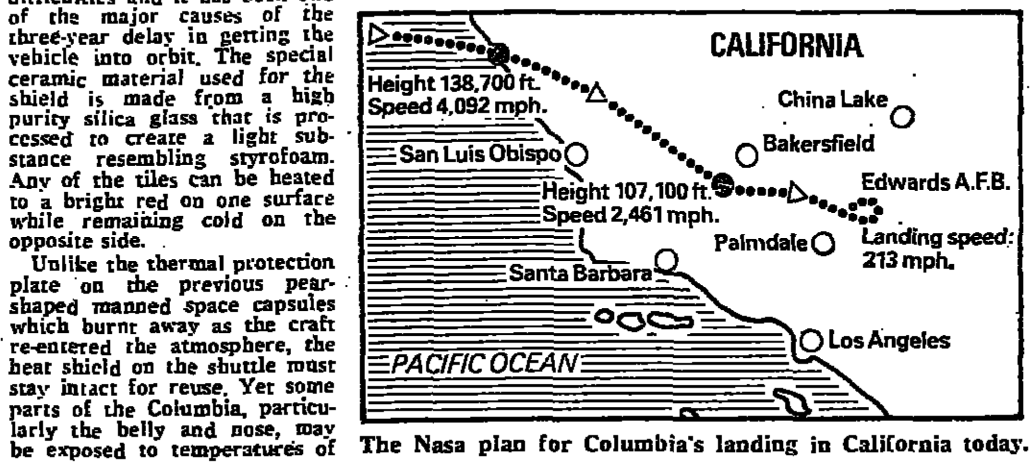
These instruments, operated by the North American Air Defence Command (Norad), can see objects smaller than two square inches in orbits which are further from earth than the shuttle's.

Provided the clouds, which hampered photography earlier yesterday, clear away this equipment has the capability for seeing any gap in the mosaic of special six-inch square tiles forming the heat shield on Columbia. An elaborate web of radar and optical stations will carry out surveillance. It includes a number of installations which each have two 40-inch cassegrain (reflecting) telescopes and a 15-inch instrument.

The heat shield of the shuttle has caused severe difficulties and it has been one of the major causes of the three-year delay in getting the vehicle into orbit. The special ceramic material used for the shield is made from a high purity silica glass that is processed to create a light substance resembling styrofoam. Any of the tiles can be heated to a bright red on one surface while remaining cold on the opposite side.

Unlike the thermal protection plate on the previous pear-shaped manned space capsules which burnt away as the craft re-entered the atmosphere, the heat shield on the shuttle must stay intact for reuse. Yet some parts of the Columbia, particularly the belly and nose, may be exposed to temperatures of up to 1600 degrees centigrade generated by friction on re-entering the atmosphere at 16,820 miles per hour.

The portions on which extra stress is expected from super hot spots, such as on the leading edge of the wing, are reinforced with a strong form of carbon. Each of the 35,000 tiles is specially designed for its position on the orbiter and the components of this unusual jigsaw vary in size and density.



The Nasa plan for Columbia's landing in California today.

Leaders of Spain able to take trips abroad

From Harry Debelius
Madrid, April 13

Both King Juan Carlos and Señor Leopoldo Calvo Sotelo, the Prime Minister, will resume their normal schedules of visits abroad this month, apparently confident that there is no danger of a repetition of last February's attempted coup during their absences.

Señor Calvo Sotelo will pay a two-day official visit to West Germany beginning April 23, a date which may have been chosen on purpose since it comes exactly two months from the day on which rebel Civil Guard forces took the Government and the lower house of the Spanish Parliament as hostages. The King will fly to Rome for a three-day official visit on April 28.

Lieutenant-General José Gabeiras Montero, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, will return from a trip to the United States next Wednesday. He left for Washington just before the arrival here last Wednesday of Mr Alexander Haig, the American Secretary of State.

Officials at the Defence Ministry were explained that General Gabeiras's trip to the United States was scheduled long in advance, before the dates of Mr Haig's 18-hour visit to Spain were known.

While the journeys abroad of these three key figures are not concurrent, they are significant, since it is the first time each of them has left the country since the abortive uprising.

The Prime Minister's objective in Bonn, according to reliable sources in Madrid, is to convince the West German Government that there is no danger of a new coup and to seek German support for an acceleration of Spain's entry into the EEC.

Repercussions of the unsuccessful uprising are still being felt. An Army major in the Spanish coastal enclave of Ceuta in North Africa was placed under arrest for two weeks, according to the Madrid daily Diario-16, for writing an essay published by a Ceuta newspaper. In the essay he objected to a Catalan politician in comparison of Lieutenant-Colonel Antonio Tejero, the officer who led the attack on the Parliament seven weeks ago, with Pancho Villa.

Tension between right and left continues. A judge in the north-central city of Saragossa, Señor Julio Boned Sopena, ordered 11 lawyers to stand trial on charges of coercion and contempt of court after they accused the judge in writing of being tougher on left-wing offenders than on right-wingers.

Albanian rebuff enrages Belgrade

From Dessa Trevisan
Belgrade, April 13

Relations between Yugoslavia and Albania which have been improving steadily for a number of years are now being tested following the nationalist riots in the predominantly Albanian Kosovo autonomous region of Yugoslavia.

In an officially-inspired comment in the Albanian Communist Party newspaper the Government in Tirana explicitly supported the demands of the demonstrators for the region's transformation into a fully-fledged republic.

The Yugoslavs considered this amounted to a blatant interference in their internal affairs and, in the view of a high-ranking Albanian official of the region, it was a call to mutiny, and an invitation to "hegemonistic forces" to meddle in Yugoslav's affairs.

The Albanian newspaper comment, which is clearly expressing the views of the Albanian leader, Mr Enver Hoxha and has the weight of an official government statement, described the demonstrators' demands for a change in the status of the region as "legitimate".

It added that the ethnic Albanians, who number two million in Yugoslavia, have never been allowed to express themselves freely and therefore have the right to "free themselves from the tutelage of Serbia" and be granted the status of one of Yugoslavia's constituent republics.

The Albanian paper accused the Yugoslav authorities of attacking the demonstrators with tanks. It said the Yugoslav authorities reacted with "extreme brutality".

The attack from Tirana has provoked serious anger here where politicians had emphasized earlier their belief that the Albanian government was not behind the demonstrations.

Last week Mr Stane Dolanc, a member of the Presidium, went out of his way to quote earlier statements from Tirana to the effect that Yugoslavia's independence and territorial integrity were in the interests of Albania.

For a number of years and as recently as a year ago Mr Hoxha has repeatedly pledged Albania's readiness to "fight together" with Yugoslavia against anyone who might endanger Yugoslavia's independence.

Mr Dolanc recalled this to emphasize the two countries' interdependence. He said any threat to Yugoslavia including the riots in Kosovo, would be damaging to Albania.

Schools reopen: Yugoslav officials said elementary school classes in Kosovo had reopened today after being closed since the disturbances. High school and university classes were expected to resume later. Many of the rioters were said to have been students (AP reports from Belgrade).

Last week, authorities lifted a nighttime curfew but a ban on public gatherings is still in force.

Italian fascist law used in pilot dispute

From John Earle
Rome, April 13

Signor Salvatore Formica, the Minister of Transport, and a Socialist, today invoked a Fascist law of 1934 to order 300 Alitalia pilots not to join a week-long Easter strike starting tomorrow. This should enable the national airline to maintain between 40 and 50 per cent

Captain Adalberto Pellegrini, president of ANPAC, the Pilots' Association, "recommended members to comply with the order, but said the association would seek a court injunction declaring the minister's order void

President Reagan stays out of public eye

Washington, April 13.—President Ronald Reagan, out of the hospital but under doctor's orders not to work in the Oval Office yet, is staying upstairs in the White House with no immediate plans for public appearances while he builds up his strength. Today he met his three chief assistants and received a written national security briefing, Mr Larry Speakes, the deputy White House press secretary, said.

He also had separate meetings with Mr Alexander Haig, the Secretary of State, and Mr Caspar Weinberger, Defence Secretary, to hear reports on their recent overseas trips. Both meetings took place in the living quarters on the second floor.

Mr Speakes said the President was not likely to make a radio speech on his economic proposals this week but might do so later.

As he recuperates at home from the bullet wound in his left lung Mr Reagan also was telephone members of Congress for a progress report on how his economic plan is faring.

Dr Daniel Ruge, the President's personal physician, said Mr Reagan was "up and about" this morning "and he is doing extremely well". He added: "He has been reading a lot and resting."—AP and UPI.

Briton loses all her money in Miami robbery

Miami, April 13.—A 76-year-old British woman who had saved for years for a Florida holiday was knocked down and robbed of $1,636 (about £740) last night two hours after arriving from England.

As Mrs Claro Roberts and her daughter, Sheila Ann Boyd, left their hotel lift two youths knocked down Mrs Roberts and escaped with her purse, which contained her money and a prescription for her heart condition. She was not injured.

On April 4 a family from Cornwall was terrorized and robbed in Miami.—UPI.

Cholera kills 14

Jakarta, April 13.—Fourteen people were reported dead and about 100 others were in hospital after a cholera outbreak in Bandung, western Java, the Antara news agency said.

Ministers meet to avert Canadian energy war

From John Best
Ottawa, April 13

Federal and Alberta cabinet ministers met in Winnipeg today in an attempt to stop an energy war developing.

The meeting between Mr Marc Lalonde, the Canadian Energy Minister, and Mr Merv Leitch, his Alberta counterpart, represents the first major effort at negotiations since Alberta began cutting its oil production six weeks ago.

That action resulted from the Federal Government's national energy programme (NEP), announced last autumn, which imposed substantial federal taxes on the oil and gas industry. About 85 per cent of all Canada's oil and gas comes from Alberta.

The programme not only imposed new taxes, boosting the federal share of revenues from the industry, but it failed to give Alberta what the province felt entitled to in the way of oil price increases.

The present federally-controlled Canadian price is $17.75 (about £7) a barrel, less than half the world price. Under the energy programme this will rise to $31 a barrel in 1984 but Alberta maintains that the increase should be greater.

The Federal Government keeps the Canadian price artificially low to give industry a competitive edge in world markets and also to help control inflation.

Alberta feels it is being cheated in the interests of oil consuming manufacturing plants principally located in Ontario. Its response six weeks ago was to cut oil production by 60,000 barrels a day. Two other 60,000 barrel reductions are scheduled for June 1 and September 1 giving a total reduction of 180,000 barrels a day or about 15 per cent.

Today's meeting on "neutral ground" in Winnipeg, which is in the province of Manitoba, was essentially exploratory aimed at establishing a dialogue and laying the groundwork for a negotiated settlement.

Before going in to the meeting Mr Lalonde told reporters not to expect any "big news" but said he hoped agreement could be reached at future meetings—possibly involving Mr Pierre Trudeau, the Prime Minister, and Mr Peter Lougheed, the Alberta Premier.

Today's meeting was scheduled to last one day but could continue longer.

Grenada accuses US of fixing five-nation boycott

From Michael Hornsby
Brussels, April 13

Grenada, the tiny island state in the Caribbean, today stepped up its criticism of alleged American interference in its affairs, accusing Washington of an "unsightly, unseemly and vulgar" attempt "to crush and squeeze" its economic development at birth.

The broadside was delivered by Mr Bernard Coard, Grenada's Deputy Prime Minister, who is in Brussels for a two-day meeting of donor countries interested in helping to finance the building of a new international airport in Grenada. The meeting opens tomorrow.

Five EEC countries—West Germany, France, Italy, Belgium, and Holland—were invited to attend, but they declined to come, arguing that they would be adequately represented by the European Commission.

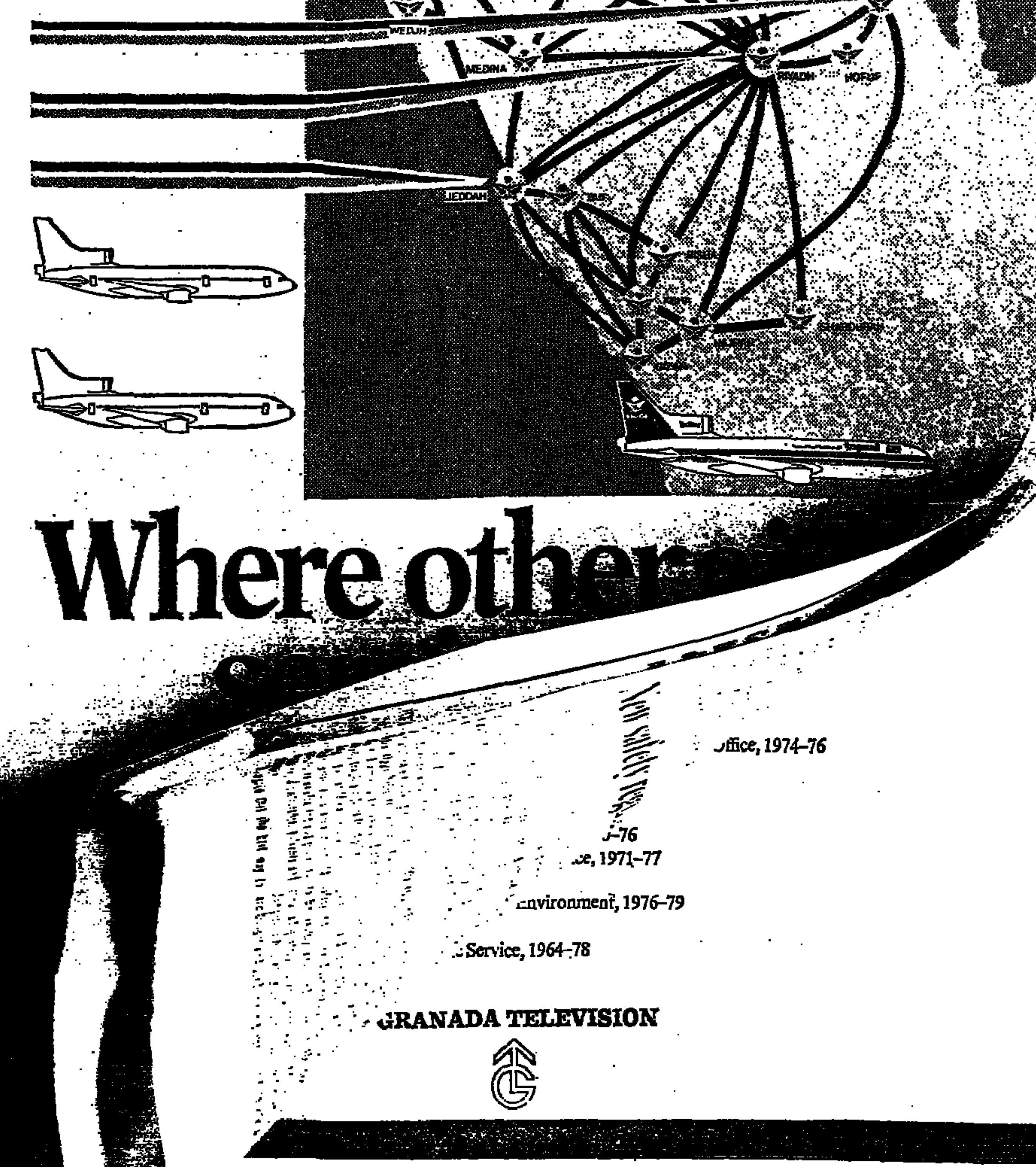
It is no secret in diplomatic circles that the United States has made known to European governments its wish that they should refrain from giving aid to the airport project. The Americans dislike the left-wing regime in Grenada and its close relations with Cuba. They have suggested that the airport could be used as a refuelling stop for the transport of Cuban troops to Africa.

Mr Coard told a press conference here that his government was "very disturbed by the very open and very vulgar attempt by the United States" to dissuade EEC countries from providing financial help.

He accused the Americans of "gross interference" in Grenada's internal affairs and its relationship with the EEC, which is governed by the Lome Convention. "We believe that their behaviour raises a serious question about whether the EEC countries are going to allow their foreign policy to be dictated by the United States", he declared.

The test, he said, would be the response of EEC member states to the report they would receive from the European Commission on this week's fund-raising meeting. "This will show who determines foreign policy in Europe", he added.

Mr Coard described the military and security objections to the airport raised by the Americans as "nothing but a load of hogwash". It would not be a military base nor would it be used for military purposes.



Comoros fall prey to isolation complex

From Marie-Thérèse Delboulbes
of Agence France-Presse
Moroni, Comoros, April 13

Unloved and unsung, ignored by the supertankers that pass on by, an out of the mainstream of the tourist trade of other Indian Ocean isles, the Comoros are falling prey to an isolation complex.

The balmy scent of the ylang ylang blossom in the evening air, the coconut palms arching languidly over the little creeks, their blue-green water contrasting with the black lava from the mist-wreathed Kartala volcano, make the Comoros a holiday postcard dream.

But this appearance of a soft life on the four islands of Great Comoro, Anjouan, Moheli and "rebel" Mayotte, situated at the entrance to the Mozambique channel, is as misleading as that of the dormant volcano, which erupted in 1977.

The Comoros have a troubled image abroad resulting from the "dark period"—the regime of Ali Soleih—and the arrival of mercenaries, who overthrew the regime on May 13, 1978. "There is a disparity between the way in which we are described abroad and the reality here," Mr Ali Mroudjae, the Foreign Minister, said.

Only last month there were rumours abroad of an attempted coup d'etat. The Foreign Minister has denied them. Observers here, while not believing there was a real threat, recognize that the opposition is trying to destabilize the regime of President Ahmed Abdallah.

President Abdallah, the "father" of independence from France on July 6, 1975, was overthrown by Ali Soleih the next month. He was returned to power by Mercenaries in May, 1978.

During the intervening years, a revolution upset the archipelago's traditional Islamic society. War was declared on feudal chiefs, power was put in the hands of youth committees, the traditional veil for women was abolished, officials were dismissed and national archives burnt.

Today the traditional leaders still fear the young who, having tasted power and forgotten the extremes of the Soleih regime, remember only its one aspects, according to one foreign national.

In February, subversive tape recordings and leaflets were seized from travellers. A pamphlet, The Voice of the People, appears almost monthly.

The opposition, which recruits among the numerous Comoran exiles in Kenya, Zanzibar, Tanzania and France, is fragmented and unorganized. There are Marxists and men such as Said Ali Kemal, who resigned in July as Ambassador to France to form a National Council for Public Salvation.

After February's unease, notables from Great Comoro and Anjouan went to declare their allegiance to President Abdallah, who customarily receives visitors in the afternoon under a mango tree.

Not that the President has anything to fear from his adversaries for the moment. He can count on a 300-strong presidential guard, officered by former mercenaries who have been dubbed "military advisers". The term "mercenary" upsets Comoran leaders who were for a time ostracized by the Organization of African Unity.

"I don't know any African countries which do not have technical assistants to train the army," said Mr Mroudjae, who pointed to the Cuban presence and Soviet and East German advisers in Angola or elsewhere.

Twenty-nine "advisers", 20 of them permanent, train and command the presidential guard. Most of them are new to the islands and did not take part in the 1978 operation. Of the original force, some have fallen in love with the isles, which still have a colonial air, and have settled here.

The presidential guard is more feared than the 700-strong French-officered Comoran Army, known as the Black Commandos because of their black uniform.

But the real problems of the archipelago lie elsewhere: in its political stagnation, in the island of Mayotte which wants to remain French, in its underdevelopment and in a rising population.

It is not clear Mayotte issue, an abce... ing relations with F... be resolved. Como... would like it solv... tiation. The Frenc... like an end to... has embarrassed...

The problem, ... authorities, is what... the 50,000 people ... who have chosen to... France remains, ho... main aid donor to ... and provides about ... ment workers, teach... cians and doctors

Poland's press warns leaders to begin reforms without delay

Warsaw, April 13.—Polish newspapers urged the Government today to make full use of the hoped-for lull in strikes by showing that it could push *through reforms without being* driven.

Two leading newspapers, *Trybuna Ludu* and *Zycie Warszawy*, said many Poles believed some of the authorities were dilatory and acted only under coercion,

They said that after the Sejm (Parliament) call on Friday for a two-month strike-free period, the authorities must now prove that this was not the case.

"For some time we have observed the widespread declaration of noble intention coupled with universal paralysis of will", *the Government daily Zycie Warszawy* said.

"The authorities object that society is insufficently disciplined . . . but society objects that the authorities are functioning sluggishly and conducting a skirt-the-issue policy", it added.

Zycie Warszany said it was time to do something about Poland's almost catastrophic economy and that the much vaunted economic reform programme had so far failed to go beyond the discussion stage.

The newspaper also indicated that responsibility for the *success of the 60-day strike* moratorium rested ultimately on the ability of the authorities to act swiftly.

"No administrative barriers, even if sanctioned by the highest legal acts, will guarantee social peace. In this regard there is no substitute for wise decisions, backed by swift and effective action," it said. "Words alone are not enough."

The Communist Party daily *Trybuna Ludu* made the same point and said the support that General Wojciech Jaruzelski, the Prime Minister, received from the Sejm was to an extent *dependent upon the Government* tackling a host of outstanding problems.

The Sejm support was linked to settelement of the problems of economic reform, the demand for a private farmers' union, further democratization of life ond the resolution of all disputes through *dialogue*, *Trybuna Ludu* said.

Wall of distrust: Mr Lech Walesa, leader of the free Solidarity union, echoed these thoughts tonight by calling on the Government to break down a "wall of distrust" and make reforms without being pur under pressure. (Reuter reports from Warsaw.)

In an interview on national television, he said Solidarity had so far achieved everything through confrontation. It was time the Government, not his union, took the initiative to *prove its commitment* to political renewal.

"If the Government gave society some of the things which are socially justified, and even things which Solidarity has not demanded, then people might regain their confidence in the authorities", he said.

Asked about the call from the Sejm for 60 strike-free days, Mr Walesa said Solidarity desired a strong government. The Government would prove its strength when it came up with solutions before being confronted with demands.

"Why do we have to force the censorship, trade union law, the farmers' union?" he asked in reference to some of his union's demands.—Reuter.

Rudolf Hess's son denied visit to father in hospital

Berlin, April 13.—The son of Rudolf Hess was refused permission today to visit his father in the British military hospital where he is being treated for pneumonia. A British spokesman for the four powers that run the Spandau war crimes prison refused to give a reason for the ban.

Herr Wolf Rüdiger Hess, aged 43, a Munich architect, said the Americans, British and French were willing to let him in. It was the Rusians who blocked the visit. "The Soviet representative said he would *have to get new instructions* from Moscow", he said.

He also said that the Russians took the view that Herr Hess is allowed only one visit a month and that his wife, Ilse, has already applied to visit him on April 21, five days before his eighty-seventh birthday.

The British warden denied that Herr Hess is near to death, the son said. "I replied I had no way of knowing this if I could not see my father". Yesterday, he accused the four powers of concealing the true state of his father's health.

Herr Hess, who was Hitler's deputy, was taken to the hospital last Tuesday from the prison near by where he is serving a life term imposed by the Nuremberg International Military Tribunal in 1946.

Armed British troops guarded the hospital because of apparent concern that neo-Nazis would try to free Herr Hess. Witnesses said they saw six soldiers at the main entrance and about 14 others patrolling the area.—UPI.

Moscow suspicious of trends in Warsaw

From Denis Taylor
Moscow, April 13

The degree of Soviet concern about pluralist tendencies within the Polish Communist Party is shown with exceptional sharpness in an article published in *Pravda* today. The report quotes allegations by Polish workers of pressure being brought on them by Solidarity, the independent trade union movement.

Western diplomatic sources in Moscow see the item in the Soviet Party newspaper as significant evidence of Russian preoccupation with reformist trends in the ruling Polish United Workers' Party as the party congress approaches in July. One diplomat saw the *Pravda* report as a sign of "*shifting the focus away from* Solidarity".

Mr Oleg Losoto, the *Pravda* correspondent, said he had talked to Mr Zdyslaw Lomowski, first secretary of the party committee at the Warel electronics plant, and other workers there.

It was alleged that when a representative of Solidarity was asked about cooperation with fellow workers in the official trade union branch, he answered: "We do not cooperate and we do not need to cooperate." At the same time, the official branch was striving for cooperation.

Referring to strike alerts, another worker, who had been 22 years at the plant, said there were shortages of basic products in the shops, but he asked if strikes would make things any better. He claimed that Solidarity was putting great *psychological pressure on the* workers.

Pravda said that the Warel communists were unanimously against anything, which threatened the unity and solidarity of the Polish Workers' Party and weakened its political force and ideological influence.

Some people in the party would like to use discussions to drag in views alien to a Marxist-Leninist party, hiding their apostasy with a luxuriant bouquet of pseudo-party phrases about ideological pluralism and "partnership" of different political forces, the newspaper said.

All this only played into the hands of the openly anti-socialist forces waging war on the Polish Workers' Party and its leading role in society. The party had to resist any actions weakening its ranks and resolutely defend socialism.

The *Pravda* article came after remarks by Mr Brezhnev, the *Soviet leader, in Prague last* week, which referred to the defence of socialism in Poland by Polish communists and true patriots, but which did *nor* mention the current party and government leadership in Warsaw.



Mr Mikhail Suslov, a member of the Soviet Politburo, addresses the East German Communist Party congress in East Berlin.

Comradely words from French and Italians

Berlin, April 13.—Italian and French Communist Party delegates spoke out strongly today at the East German party congress against outside interference in Poland's affairs.

Signor Giovanni Cervetti and M Gaston Plissonnier, senior officals in the Italian and French parties, demanded that the Warsaw leadership be left to solve Poland's difficulties

Signor Cervetti said Italian Communists took "a favourable view of the present process of renewal in Poland and of the work done by the Polish comrades".

He added: "We want them to be able to solve and overcome the crisis and tensions by political means alone and with their own strength and without outside interference."

The Italian party was committed to the view that "the respect of independence and sovereignty of every state and of every people is an unconditional principle for every socialist force, for every progressive force, and also a basic condition for the continuation of détente."

M Plissonnier, a member of the French Communist Politburo, took a similar line. "The French Communist Party is deeply convinced it is the affair of the Polish party, the Government and the Polish people to solve their problems through the realization of economic, social and democratic reforms," he said.

The French media were bringing almost daily reports of an impending Soviet intervention in Poland but the French party was convinced these were part of an anti-communist propaganda campaign, he added.

The Italian and French delegates *were the first speakers* at the three-day-old conference to issue implicit warnings against the idea of a Soviet bloc intervention in Poland.

Apart from a Bulgarian official who yesterday expressed confidence in the ability of the Warsaw leader*ship to solve the crisis other* Soviet block spokesmen have made largely non-committal remarks about Poland and have witheld expressions of trust..

The Italian and French parties, the two biggest in Western Europe, both condemned the Soviet block intervention in Czechoslovakia in 1968. But the French party has made little comment on the unrest in Poland and the threat of a Soviet military move.

Senior East German communist officials have avoided direct references to Poland in speeches to the congress in the past two days. But Herr Egon Krenz, leader of the East German Communist youth movement, today grouped "anti-communists, revisionists and renewers" as enemies of true socialism.

"Renewers" is a term coined recently by East German ideologists as an allusion to leading Polish communist officials calling for a renewed political system more open and liberal than orthodox Soviet-style communism.—Reuter.

Neo-fascists kill Brescia bomb man in jail yard

Novara, Italy, April 13.—Ernano Buzzi, a neo-Fascist extremist condemned to life in prison for planting a bomb that killed eight people at a left-wing rally in 1974, was strangled in the exercise yard of a maximum security prison today.

Buzzi was convicted of planting a bomb in a street rubbish basket during an anti-Fascist rally in the northern city of Brescia

Police said Buzzi was killed by two well-known neo-Fascists serving life sentences for the killing of a Rome judge and two policemen, respectively.

Buzzi was killed in the exer*cise yard while it was being* used by 11 right-wing extremists. The two men who confessed to the crime told police that Buzzi had been "condemned" and declared themselves "prisoners of war".—UPI.

Coolness in Pretoria to Reagan envoy

From Our Correspondent
Johannesburg, April 13

Dr Chester Crocker, the Reagan Administration's Africa expert, is due fo arrive at Waterkloof air base, near Pretoria, tomorrow on the sixth and possibly most vital leg of his 10-nation African shuttle at approximately the same time as the space shuttle Columbia will be making its reentry into the atmosphere.

It is perhaps fortuitous that *Columbia will be stealing what*ever thunder may attrach itself to Dr Crocker's arrival in South Africa to gain support for the Reagan plan for a Namibia settlement.

Mr P. W. Botha, the Prime Minister, reacted with distinct coolness today when asked if *he would meet Dr Crocker.* "I do not know if there are suggestions that I meet him. And even if there were preparations being made for me to meet him I do not think this is the time and place to disclose them", he said at a press conference.

Dr Crocker will certainly meet Mr Pik Botha, the Foreign Minister, but the Prime Minister appears more concerned about the April 29 *general election than inter*national affairs.

Last week, in apparent reaction to Dr Crocker's remarks in Nairobi that the United States would seek a new relationship with South Africa to lead the country "away from apartheid", the Prime Minister told an *election meeting in* Cape Town: "We will not allow others to prescribe to us, not today or in the future.

"The only people who will decide that are the South African voters through polls and in the South African Parliament"

The South African authorities have made it clear that they regard his visit as a very low key affair. No arrangements have been made for any press conference or briefings and in fact Mr Pik Botha, without success, urged Dr Crocker to stay away from South Africa until after the April 29 poll.

It is clear though that Washington wants the tour to be completed and weighed up *before the resumption of the* United Nations Security Council debate on Namibia on April 21.

Africans' concern: Dr Crocker acknowledged at the end of his visit to Zimbabwe today that black leaders had expressed "some concern" to him over the *new* Administration's Southern Africa policy (Stephen Taylor writes from Salisbury).

He left for Maputo this afternoon after meeting officials of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and a one-hour session with Mr Robert Mugabe, the Prime Minister.

A constant theme in the talks so far, in Kenya, Tanzania, Zambia and here, has been the view of black leaders that the White House has adopted a warmer approach to South Africa since President Reagan's election.

Transkei attempts to control its news

From Ray Kennedy,
Johannesburg, April 13

A Bill making it illegal for anyone to publish anything about the Transkei Government without ministerial approval was approved today by the Par*liament of South Africa's first* independent Bantustan in Umtata, the capital.

The Criminal Law Amendment Bill, which requires only the signature of Paramount Chief Kaiser Matanzima, the President, and to be gazetted officially to become law, applies also to any news about the activities of a government department or institution.

The Bill will also force people who publish such information to disclose the source of information.

Contravention of the Bill will be *punished by prison sentences* of up to three years or fines up to rands 3,000 (£1,700) and in any prosecution it will be presumed that the accused knew the information disclosed contravened the Bill unless the contrary is proved.

Journalists operating in the Transkei have already been subjected to repeated harassment and several have been detained or expelled. South African newspapers circulating in the territory—such as the East London *Daily Dispatch* which was banned for a period—are finding it difficult to attract back journalists of the required calibre to cover Transkei affairs.

The Bill was introduced by Mr T. T. Letlaka, Minister of Justice and a former leading member of the militant Pan Africanist Congress (Pac). He said that previously confidential *official information had been* leaked to the public and in some cases the information has been distorted or incorrect.

Transkei, with a population of 1,700,000, was granted self-rule by South Africa in October, 1976. Its independence is recognized only by South Africa and the other independent homelands of Bophuthatswana and Venda.

Tunisian party picks leaders

Tunis, April 13.—A special congress of the ruling Destour Socialist Party yesterday elected a *new* 80-member Central Committee, in what was seen here as a vote of confidence in the programme of liberalization pursued by Mr Muhammad Mzali, the Prime Minister.

The *new committee, from* which President Habib Bourguiba will choose a Politburo, includes the members of the Government Mr Mzali formed a year ago as well as most mem*bers of the former Politburo.*—Agence France-Presse.

Turks seek execution for 97 Kurd separatists

From Sinan Fisek
Ankara, April 13

Prosecutors of the martial law tribunal in Di yarbakir, in south-eastern Turkey, today asked for death sentences against 97 members of the Kurdish separatist Kurdistan Liberation Party.

Out of 2,331 alleged militants of the group now under arrest, only 447 went on trial today, including three former members of Parliament, one a former cabinet member, who face prison sentences for supplying "moral and material support" to the separatists.

In their opening statement, the two prosecutors said that the group, known as Apocu from a familiar abbreviation of the name of its leader, Mr Abdullah Ocalan, had murdered 243 people, including 30 security troops, since 1978.

They added that 27 members of the group had been killed in clashes with police in their effort to "form armed gangs in order to set up a communist state on lands which they planned to separate forcefully from the sovereignty of the Turkish state".

Minor incidents took place in the court inside the Di yarbakir garrison on this first day of the trial which was taken up with the formality of determining the prisoners' identities.

About 30 of the accused refused to identify themselves in a sign of protest against prison conditions. The judge said they could air their views on the matter at a later stage of the trial, but the men insisted and many were removed from the court.

The 207-page opening statement read in parts like a horror story. It claimed that one militant, acting on orders, killed his own mother and brother because they were against the group's activities.

It also alleged that militants set up "popular tribunals" and tried their "enemies" and "defectors", torturing them by giving them electric shocks, hanging them up by their feet and mutilating them, slicing off noses and ears, before killing them.

The trial is expected to be a drawn-out affair, with new suits being filed gradually against the remaining 1,884 alleged militants under arrest.

About 1,000 more people are being sought in connexion with the group's activities, including Mr Ocalan, who has always directed his followers from abroad, well-informed sources in Ankara reported.

Communist party expels its founder

From Our Own Correspondent
Delhi, April 13

Mr Shripad Amrit Dange, one of the founders and a former chairman of the Communist Party of India was expelled from the party today.

His expulsion on the unanimous vote of the executive was the inevitable outcome of his publicly expressed contempt for the leadership, his strong criticism of the party line and his support for Mrs Indira Gandhi, the Prime Minister.

His refusal to stop supporting Mrs Gandhi led to his removal from the party chairmanship last year. His statements and his open identification with a splinter group led by his daughter at last forced the Marxist Party to seek his expulsion for 'anti-party activities".

Mr Dange, who is 81, consider Mrs Gandhi is "a progressive bourgeois, patriotic, anti-imperialist and anti-feudal". At the same time he has complained that the Communist Party of India "has failed to dentify itself with the people's aspirations".

Pilgrims die in bus crash

Delhi, April 13.—A chartered bus carrying Hindu pilgrims crashed and caught fire in Southern India last night, killing 46 people and injuring 19, the press trust of India said Monday.

The bus travelling to a remote Hindu temple in Andhra Pradesh, crashed through guard rails on a sharp curve, tumbled 20 feet into a ravine and burst into flames.—UPI.

Gliders collide

Johannesberg, April 13.—A South African glider pilot was killed and another, a young woman, parachuted to safety when their gliders collided above the black township of Soweto, near here yesterday.

PLO denounces Haig policy and seeks friendship of Moscow

From Tewfik Mishlawi
Beirut, April 13

A leading Palestinian official has denounced America's Middle East policy, called for closer ties with the Soviet block and urged European countries to act independently from the United States in the search for peace in the Middle East.

Mr Farouk Kaddoumi, head of the political department of the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO), told the Palestine National Council (parliament in exile), now meeting in Damascus, that the United States had "adopted a hostile and offensive policy" in the Middle East with a view to expanding its influence and exploiting the resources of the region.

A political affairs committee of the council today began its debate on Mr Kaddoumi's 100-page political report, in which he discussed various aspects of PLO political activity since the last council session about two years ago. Radical Palestinian leaders, while endorsing Mr Kaddoumi's report in general, are demanding "practical action" to counter Washington's policies.

The PLO official, who is equivalent to a Palestinian foreign minister, condemned the recent tour of the Middle East by Mr Alexander Haig, the American Secretary of State, and rejected Mr Haig's emphasis on the Soviet Union as the source of danger to Middle East security.

Mr Kaddoumi accused the Secretary of State of seeking to establish "military blocks and aggressive bases to confront any alleged Soviet threat to the region, while ignoring the fact that Israeli occupation of Palestine and American support to it are the source of all dangers to peace and security in the area".

"The Palestinians, Mr Kaddoumi added, "have no alternative but to strengthen their relations with their true friends, the socialist block led by the Soviet Union".

Turning to Western Europe, Mr Kaddoumi noted a "positive change" toward a better understanding of the Palestinian problem. But this was not enough. He called for additional efforts to "develop" the position of the EEC countries, but did not expect an early peace initiative from them. He advised the European Community states that if they wanted their initiative on the Middle East problem to succeed, "They must steer clear of America's domination".

In his speech opening the council session on Saturday, President Hafiz al-Assad of Syria made no reference to King Husain, despite the continuing war of words between Syria and Jordan. This was interpreted as a gesture by the Syrian leader notto embarrass the PLO chairman, Mr Yassir Arafat, who prefers to keep his bridges open with the Jordanian monarch.

Senate inquiry: A United States Senate delegation arrived in Tel Aviv today from Saudi Arabia to examine Israeli objections to the supply of advanced American arms to the Saudis.—Reuter.

Syrians mopping up around encircled Lebanese town

Beirut, April 13.—Syrian troops today carried out mopping-up operations against right-wing militia around the besieged eastern Lebanese town of Zahle.

The Syrian Government simultaneously rejected French-led moves to set up a new international force to police a ceasefire if the Lebanese authorities request it.

Syrian forces have cut off Zahle, and are fighting Phalangist forces in the village of Qaa al-Rim, three miles north.

The officially-controlled Syrian press today strongly criticized the latest French moves, describing them as interference in Syrian-Lebanese affairs.

France has said it is ready to play a leading role in setting up a buffer force. Two days ago Mr Alexander Haig, the United States Secretary of State, said in Paris that the United States and France were taking coordinated diplomatic action to help to end the bloodshed.

Mr Camille Chamoun, head of the right-wing Lebanese front alliance, today discussed the crisis with President Elias Sarkis and suggested talks with the Syrians as the way to settle Lebanon's problems.

The Phalangists, who dominate the Lebanese Front, have so far rejected direct talks with the Syrians, whom they have accused of attempting creeping annexation of the country.—Reuter.

Liberian military prepare return to civilian rule

Monrovia, April 13.—A year after seizing power, Liberia's military Government has announced that it is forming a commission to draft a constitution as a prelude to a return to civilian rule.

Master Sergeant Samuel Doe, the head of state, made the announcement in a speech to mark the anniversary of the coup in which President William Tolbert was assassinated. But Sergeant Doe, aged 29, who staged the coup with 16 other enlisted men, did not say when military rule would end.

The old constitution was suspended after the coup. The 25-member commission will be headed by Mr Amos Sawyer, head of the political science department at Liberia University.

Sergeant Does said the members were chosen to take into account "regional balance, technical competence and commitment to the course of change in the interest of the Liberian masses".

He also announced that 19 political prisoners were being released. Mr Chea Cheapoo, the Justice Minister, told reporters the prisoners included Mr James Gbarbea and Mr Allen William, two former defence ministers.

He said 24 political prisoners remained in jail including Mr Adolphus Tolbert, elder son of the late President.

Sergeant Doe paid tribute to the help his Government was getting from the United States, its biggest aid supplier, which gave it $23.85m (about £10.8m) in 1980 and has approved $33m this year. American officials say the final amount could be greater.

The United States links were symbolized by the presence here since last Friday of about 100 American Green Beret commandos for 30 days' training with the Liberian Army.—Reuter.

Indonesian dance for the Prince of Wales during a stroll through Canberra.

Russell-style tribunal on Rhine's filth

By Tony Samstag

The concept of an unspoilt environment as a basic human right is among the more striking implications of a small but determined movement among European Conservationists to convene a Russell-style tribunal next year on pollution of the Rhine.

The tribunal, to be held in Rotterdam, would collect data on pollution in the Rhine catchment area, describe its effects and outline a programme of legislation (or more efficient enforcement of existing legislation) to punish polluters.

"As many of the polluting industries as possible will be identified and subsequently called to account", according to a statement by the Dutch Society for the Preservation of the Waddenzee.

The Bertrand Russell Peace Foundation has in its time called tribunals on American war crimes in Vietnam, human rights in Latin America and Germany, and the treatment of Indians in North, South and Central America.

A similar approach to environmental issues was first suggested at a meeting of European environmentalists in Paris last month, where delegates from such action groups as Greenpeace argued that pollution could be as much a violation of human rights

Agencies in Karamoja fear rain could hinder relief

From Charles Harrison
Nairobi, April 13

Torrential rain has cut many roads in the Karamoja district of north-east Uganda, and aid agencies are trying to plan an emergency airlift to deliver food to the worst-hit areas, where thousands of people depend on famine relief supplies.

The interruption of supplies is creating a potentially dangerous situation for aid workers in remote parts of Karamoja. Many say they run the risk of being attacked by tribesmen if the food runs out.

"The Karamojong are traditionally warriors, and it is impossible to explain to them that they can't have the food they have come to rely on", an Australian volunteer said.

The rains have been earlier and heavier than for many years. They have washed away bridges, and turned roads into a sea of mud.

United Nations officials in Kampala say large quantities of food are still on the way to Karamoja, and if these get through there will be no immediate problem, but some areas are already cut off, and a dry spell of several days is needed to move vehicles from the near by towns of Soroti and Mbale.

Most of the 300,000 people in Karamoja have depended on relief food for months, because their cattle and goats, normally their main support, have died from drought or have been lost in tribal raids.

Efforts are being made to encourage the Karamojong to plant sorghum and millet, the only crops that grow in their arid lands.

Hospital has no drugs

Children play among Chad war victims

From Ian Murray
Ndjamena

The rifles are propped like a tripod in the shade of the tree by the central hospital entrance. Sprawled in the dust beside them are guards with the distinctive red flashes on their shoulders of Chad's elite military police.

They argue briefly against the idea of a tour but then give in. One of them puts on his red beret, brushes the dust off his shirt and throws his rifle over his shoulder, holding it casually by the barrel like a toy.

He does not know the way round the hospital he guards, but the wing where the war wounded lay can be easily found by the stench and the clattering.

The stench, a strange mixture of stale disinfectant and excreta, hangs so heavy in the firce heat of the sun that it is almost tangible. The clattering, like the noise of a child turned loose on a set of saucepans, comes from the iron beds at the patients twist and turn in their discomfort and pain.

It is a modern enough hospital, clad in red brick with big outside verandahs. Doubtless a few years ago it was a pride of Ndjamena. But neglect, dirt and war have turned each little ward into a scene worthy of Hogarth.

Flies gorge themselves on rotting, uneaten and inedible food that adds its own pungency to the atmosphere. The mattresses are usually bare and stained with dried blood. The few covers left are filthy scraps of grey and maroon blanket.

The fans in the ceiling do not turn for there is no electricity; the toilets do not work for there is no water; the filth rots where it lies for there is no staff.

And in the midst of all this are the patients, some with no arms or feet, some with metal splints pinning shattered limbs, some with hideous oozing wounds now four months old.

Not all are war victims but are victims of what has become everyday life in Chad. There is a teenager who sits on a foul mattress with blood-soaked bandages covering both legs and one arm, a look of anger and shock on his young face. A man who refused to pay him a taxi fare had flung petrol over him and set him alight before walking off.

Nursing is almost non-existent and several of the men's wives sleep on mats by the bedside carrying away bedpans and bringing in food and water. A few even have their tiny children there, playing happily about on the revolting floors, their faces as out of place as a fairy's in a nightmare.

There are few drugs. Some say they receive a pill perhaps twice a week. All say they see a doctor at most once a week. A temperature chart at the foot of most beds is the only sign of regular attention. The patients keep their own medical records, eagerly and proudly pulling out their X-rays to show the bullet many still carry in them.

It is now four months since the fighting stopped and the 250 or so remaining in hospital are all that are left there of the 9,000 originally wounded in the war. Despite the appalling conditions some are so crippled they do not want to leave. Life even for the fit is a terrible struggle in Chad. For the handicapped it is well nigh impossible.

A small team of French doctors cross the river from the Cameroons each day to operate on emergencies, but they lack the resources or security to provide thorough after-care. There is only one working Chad doctor.

The few Chad nurses on the staff are all tired and disillusioned. None has been paid since before Christmas and one admits frankly that he has stolen surgical alcohol from the hospital's meagre supplies in order to raise a little money to feed his own family.

In another area the only two nurses on duty were both asleep despite the sobs of a woman patient desperately calling out for water. The casualty department stores boast four bandages and a half empty bottle of aspirin.

On the way back to the front gate the young military policeman is silent and pensive. With one hand he holds his red beret over his nose to keep out the stench. With the other he holds his rifle almost distastefully away from him. Perhaps he has realized his gun is not a toy.

Mr Shcharansky loses his visiting rights for a year

Moscow, April 13.—Mr Anatoly Shcharansky, a Jewish dissident who is serving a sentence in a Urals labour camp, has been put in solitary confinement and denied visiting rights during 1981, his mother said.

In a statement handed to Western correspondents, Mrs Ida Milgrom said camp authorities had sentenced her son to six months' solitary confinement in January, but did not say why.

Mr Shcharansky, who is 32, was sentenced in 1978 to three years' imprisonment and 10 years in a labour camp on charges of espionage. His trial aroused widespread protest in the West.

"This is the moral and physical destruction of a person. A tragic end is unavoidable in the conditions in which Anatoly finds himself and this, it seems, is the main aim of the organs of power", Mrs Milgrom said.—Reuter.

Hope of end to Gujarat caste conflict

From Trevor Fishlock
Delhi, April 13

The caste conflict in the western Indian state of Gujarat, which has cost more than 40 lives, appeared to have been resolved today in an agreement between the agitators and the state authorities. The junior doctors, who have been in the forefront of trouble during the past three months, agreed to stop demonstrations and other actions.

The authorities hope that the turmoil in Gujarat which has involved rioting, arson, murder and beatings, will now subside. But the bitterness created during the trouble will take some time to heal.

The conflict had its roots in caste prejudice and perceptions of changing fortunes among castes. Postgraduate medical students started demonstrating against the reservation system through which India attempts to redress economic and social wrongs arising from the caste system.

Since independence there have been quotas of jobs and college places reserved for people of recognized tribes and of lower castes like *harijans* (untouchables).

In Gujarat resentment erupted because higher caste students felt that lower caste people were being treated too favourably. They said that deserving students could not get places in colleges.

Their demonstrations demanding the ending of the quota system led directly to inter-caste, murders and the burning of homes. Police had on several occasions to resort to baton charges, teargas and shooting to break up mobs. The state government invoked the law providing for detention without trial.

Meanwhile the quota system was vigorously defended by Mrs Indira Gandhi, the Prime Minister, and the Indian Parliament, who made it plain they were committed to the quota system as part of a framework of equality and justice in a society traditionally ordered on caste lines.

In the face of the government's determination not to be browbeaten, the students and their supporters saw that their agitation would run out of steam. They had planned to start today an indefinite fast, an action hardly likely to worry the authorities, but instead had talks with the state government.

As part of the deal the junior doctors agreed to stop the agitation that has disrupted life in the state, has spread fear and bitterness, and has closed the colleges. The authorities agreed to release arrested students and to improve conditions in colleges and increase students' stipends.

Searching Indian questions for Mrs Thatcher

By Lucy Hodges

When Mrs Margaret Thatcher, the Prime Ministry, arrives in India today, she is likely to encounter protests about harassment of Asians at Heathrow Airport, virginity testing (now stopped) and the way in which families are kept apart by immigration controls.

Relations between Britain and India are at an all-time low point. Indian newspaper coverage of Britain concentrates on reports about racial incidents and the Nationality Bill. Some are hysterical, but they reflect a widespread feeling, based on what many people believe to be true.

When customs officers at Heathrow detained an Indian troupe for two hours last year, the *Hindustan Times* described the incident as scandalous.

"Perhaps without an empire and far-flung outposts to lord over, the British have reverted to what they basically are—a small people with small minds inhabiting a small island in the Atlantic."

To what extent are these complaints justified, it is asked. The foregoing example does not seem that serious, on the face of it, but others are more worrying and help to explain the particular sensitivity of the Indian sub-continent at the moment.

It is difficult to avoid the conclusion that Asians wanting and entitled to come here are treated differently from whites. People from India and Pakistan are refused entry to Britain at a much higher rate than, say, North Americans or Scandinavians.

In 1979, 12 out of every 1,000 Pakistanis were denied entry and six out of every 1,000 Indians. This contrasts with a figure of 0.2 for Canadian and Australian visitors (many more of whom were applying to visit this country).

In the same year 1,074 Indians were held at the Harmondsworth detention centre, compared with 16 Australians and 14 Canadians. Many are detained because they arrive without prior entry clearance, which is not officially required by Indian visitors and about which most white visitors have never heard.

However, if Asians try to get entry clearance in their own countries, it is not always easy. Mrs Kashiben Manibhai Patel, a widow of 71, who as a former Ugandan Asian is a citizen of the United Kingdom and colonies, has been refused entry clearance to visit her six children, 22 grandchildren and five great-grandchildren living here.

She applied to visit this country in August 1979 for her grand-daughter's wedding and was turned down on the grounds that she might stay here. The same thing happened again last year.

Mrs Thatcher is likely to be lobbied strongly about the special voucher scheme; former East African Asians, who are British passport holders, have to wait more than five-and-a-half years to enter Britain because the quota for them is set at about 500 a year.

It is suspected that it is deliberately being kept low in India, but high in other parts of the world, such as East Africa, where few Asians remain. By reshuffling the quota to allow the 5,000 people waiting in India to come here, the Prime Minister could generate some much-needed good will.

Brixton riot inquiry: 'We cannot buy our way out of these problems'

House of Commons

Lord Scarman, a Lord of Appeal, is to undertake an urgent inquiry into the serious disorders in Brixton over the weekend. The inquiry was announced in a statement by Mr William Whitelaw, Home Secretary, who said the events of the weekend called for the most thorough investigation.

He had decided to appoint an inquiry under Section 32 of the Police Act, 1964. The inquiry would be held in public save where Lord Scarman decided it was *appropriate to be held in* private.

Mr Whitelaw said: The House is well *aware of the violent* clashes which have occurred between the police and young people, mainly *black. The most serious disorder* took place in the afternoon and evening of Saturday. Shops were looted, vehicles destroyed and other property, including private homes, seriously damaged.

Again yesterday there were outbreaks of lawlessness in the area, though on a lesser scale. Over the two days a total of 149 police officers were injured, along with 58 members of the public. Ten police officers and one member of the public remain in hospital. Some 224 people were arrested.

We in Parliament, on behalf of *the people of this country, have* placed on the police the heavy burden of maintaining peace on *the streets and of preserving order* and the rule of law. Whatever questions may arise in people's minds about the reasons why this outbreak of violence occurred, there is no doubt in my mind, nor should there be in the mind of any Member of this House, that Metropolitan Police officers of all ranks carried out their duty with great bravery and professionalism.

On our behalf I have asked the commissioner to pass this message on to all members of his force. I would also wish to pay our tribute to the same courage and determination which were shown by the *members of the London fire* brigade.

But despite the determined efforts of the police, they were faced with violence which was very serious in its type, scale and intensity. In addition to the personal *injuries, the widespread damage to* property, and consequent financial loss to wholly innocent people, has been enormous. Whatever grievances individuals or communities feel they suffer, such violence—from whatever quarter *it comes*—cannot and will not be condoned.

The police will continue to do *their duty to maintain the law* on the streets of London, and in this they are entitled to the full support of Parliament and the nation.

The events of this weekend call for the most thorough examination. I have therefore decided to *appoint an inquiry under Section* 32 of the Police Act, 1964. I have invited Lord Scarman to undertake this inquiry and I am glad to say he has accepted. His terms of reference will be:

"To inquire urgently into the serious disorder in Brixton on April 10 to 12 and to report, with the power to make recommenda*tions.*"

The inquiry will be held in public save where Lord Scarman decides that it is *appropriate* to be held in private.

Mr Roy Hattersley, chief Opposition spokesman on home affairs (Birmingham, Sparkbrook, Lab), questioning Mr Whitelaw on the statement, said: I offer the Opposition's sympathy to the many policemen and fire officers who were injured while performing their legitimate *duties in Brixton* during the weekend. (Conservative cheers.)

We deplore the violence that took place and believe that suggestions that police should have *left the area* and abandoned the protection of residents are wholly misplaced. (Renewed Conservative cheers.)

We support the setting up of an inquiry but believe it should investigate more than the specific incident or incidents that precipitated last weekend's violent events. Certainly it must examine what happened on Saturday and Sunday, and how the police responded to the situation.

In our view, that is only the beginning of the inquiry. The question is how the area can be helped to avoid a repetition of such incidents in future and how such incidents can be avoided in *other parts of the country.*

The events of the last two days have deep-rooted and fundamental causes. *Those causes and roots* must be explored. The inquiry must go further than policing pro*cedures alone.*

We hope it would examine three points. First the employment pros*pects of the young people in the* area. Even when the slump is over, they will need special assistance to find jobs.

Second, the housing prospects in the immediate area should be covered. Anyone who has visited Mayall Road or Railton Road must realize that the physical conditions of that area had a crucial effect on the events. *Money should be* provided for the improvement of the area.

Third, we need a fundamental review of the relationship between the Brixton police and the Brixton public. I have no wish to allocate blame or *responsibility* but the breakdown of the relationship between the police and the public is *an* undoubted fact. It is the duty of the inquiry to discover how it happened and how it can be remedied.

An inquiry under Section 32 of the Police Act, 1964, may in many ways be inadequate. It concentrates on only two of the issues we regard as fundamental.

Therefore I urge him to keep an *open mind on both the nature of* the inquiry and those who should carry it out until he has had representations about its membership and its terms of reference.

I urge him to set up a wide ranging inquiry into the causes of the events as well as the events themselves.

I urge him to compose that *inquiry of a number of responsible* and reputable persons familiar with the problems involved in such an area. A limited inquiry in these circumstances could be no more than a palliative. In our view, the time for palliatives is past.

Mr Whitelaw: I am grateful for his forthright statement on the suggestions that the police should *have left the area. There* was pressure that this should happen and the police commander who *rejected those representations* was entirely right.

The terms of reference of the inquiry will enable Lord Scarman to consider the matters he mentioned.

I had in mind that the Select Committee on Home Affairs is just completing a study of racial disadvantage generally and felt it was wrong to cross the wires of the two inquiries.

I had in mind it was important to get a quick and urgent answer. In regard to the Red Lion Square inquiry, Lord Scarman produced just such a report, and quickly. It seemed sensible to follow that precedent.

I have asked Lord Scarman to do it. I know he has wide support throughout the House. I hope it *will be done urgently and I believe* the inquiry can inquire into the matters he has raised.

Mr Hattersley: In the genuine and perhaps desperate desire to minimize the damage that will come out of the last two days, may I reiterate my firm belief that the circumstances that brought about *the Red Lion* Square events are different from those which caused the Brixton *disturbances?*

I plead with him at least to consider accepting representations *about the nature of the inquiry* and its membership before he closes all doors. He has come quickly to this conclusion. I hope he will leave his mind open for one day more at least.

Mr Whitelaw: I took the view on visiting the area that it was crucial for this House to take a *firm, clear and decisive action at* the earliest possible opportunity. That is most important. That is why I acted urgently.

I managed to obtain the services of Lord Scarman. I wish to proceed on that basis. I trust the *House will allow me to do so.*

Mr John Fraser (Lambeth, Norwood, Lab): I share the regret *and shock at what has happened,* but it is not the immediate cause of what happened that matters. What is needed is a broad-based and sensitive inquiry into the underlying causes.

Deep disaffection about rela*tions with the police is described* by my constituents as one of the causes, and deep concern about unemployment and the other consequences of economic policy are others. I urge him to include these underlying causes in the inquiry under the chairmanship of Lord Scarman.

Does he regard this as a riot *for which the police will pay* damages under the Riot Damages Act?

I urge that we have immediate community policing henceforth in this area.

Mr Whitelaw: Yes, it will be regarded as a riot. Yes, compensation will be paid. This is a matter for the Receiver of the Metro*politan Police in the normal way.*

As for the immediate causes and the sensitive inquiry into the relationship between the police and the public in Brixton, that will be at the centre of Lord Scarman's inquiry and is entirely covered by *his terms of reference, as are the* other matters that he has raised.

Mr William Shelton (Lambeth, Streatham, C): *Many people will* be pleased to know that they will receive compensation for these *disgraceful events. The evidence* is mounting that what sparked the business off on Saturday is an indication of there being some kind of planned trap for the police.

A recent report on police and community relations *sponsored by* Lambeth Council, called the police an army of occupation and did *much to increase hostility against* the police.

Over the last two weeks or so *subversive leaflets, of which* I have two in my hand, have been circulated throughout the area.

The vast majority of the community in Lambeth are sick and fed up with left-wing agitators taking advantage of the genuine grievances of many of these youngsters to further their own subversive ends.

Mr Whitelaw: The matters he has raised will obviously all come before Lord Scarman's inquiry, and I would therefore not wish to repeat some of the views I have held on some of them in the past. *It is important for Lord* Scarman to look at them afresh.

Mr John Tilley (Lambeth, Central, Lab): The vast majority of the people in the parts of Brixton I represent also condemn the *violence that took place, but they* will be disappointed that the *inquiry seems to be restricted and that the underlying economic and* social causes seem to be given secondary consideration, if at all.

Does he remember a year ago when I urged him in this House after the Bristol disturbances to take that as a warning that the Government would face similar outbreaks throughout the country in the inner cities if they did not act then to remove the *sources* and causes of the frustration and anger?

Since then in that area, the Government has done precisely the opposite and the services of local government and the job opportunities for youngsters, black and white, in that area have become fewer rather than greater.

The Government must take action now. The inquiry must be widened to include specifically the Government's policies on industry, employment and the environment.

Will he arrange for the Secretaries of State for Industry and *the Environment also to visit* Brixton to see the consequences of their economic policies?

Mr Whitelaw: There are many people whether in the Asian or West Indian community, who deeply deplore violence as much as everyone else. Lord Scarman can inquire into many of his other points.

Lambeth received Government assistance of about £8m in 1980-81 under the partnership arrange*ments.*

Sir Nigel Fisher (Kingston upon Thames, Surbiton, C): Can he express a view as to whether the police might have used tear gas to disperse the rioters because that might have saved many police *casualties?*

Would he bear in mind for the future that if the police had organized a pincer movement it would have reduced the area of the looting.

Mr Whitelaw: Both these points come within the terms of reference of the Lord Scarman inquiry. Having heard from the police how *they handled the operational* situation, I think that a pincer movement was carried out.

Mr Enoch Powell (South Down, Off UU): In reflecting upon these events, will he and the Government bear in mind in view of the prospective *future increase of the* relevant population, that they have seen nothing yet?

Mr Whitelaw: I will reflect on anything Mr Powell says.

Mr Peter Bottomley (Greenwich, *Woolwich, West, C*): After the inquiry it will be necessary to give further thought not only by inquiries but in every other way to try to improve the community in the centre of Lambeth because the community is not a reflection of several communities but one community.

Mr Whitelaw: I accept that and the importance of the work, without making any controversial point, of the local council and all authorities—just as *important* as the work of Lord Scarman. All these matters can be considered and no doubt *will be within Lord* Scarman's terms of reference.

Mr David Alton (Liverpool, Edge *Hill, L): Has any evidence come* to light of any extreme groups being involved in the riot over *the weekend?*

Will he bear in mind when the inquiry is meeting that unemploy*ment among young blacks* quadrupled last year? This is a cause of much of the problems in our inner cities.

Mr Whitelaw: The first point must be for the inquiry. It would be wrong for me to anticipate it. Unemployment is serious, but it never can be and never should be made in this House an excuse for violence such as we have seen this weekend.

Mr Eldon Griffiths (Bury St *Edmunds, C): Will he look into* the Molotov cocktails, since this can hardly have been spontaneous *and must have been with malice* aforethought.

Looking to the future, will he agree it is impracticable to ask the police to handle the complex problems of race relations alone and that he should give his sup*port to informal contacts between* the police and the immigrant communities, perhaps at a social level?

There is no justice in suggesting that the Metropolitan Police are in any sense racially motivated.

Mr Whitelaw: I accept what he said at the end. I would be keen to see more community relations *work and more social contacts,* which has been done by the Metropolitan Police and their community relations officer in this area. That should not be forgotten. A great deal has been done and it should be recognized.

The other matters could be raised with Lord Scarman's inquiry except one, and that is that the police cannot deal with race relations problems on their own. They are the recipients of many of the problems which arise from other factors. They have to do the job of keeping the peace in those circumstances. That is what we *can find out from the inquiry.*

Mr Thomas Cox (Wandsworth, Tooting, Lab): Is he really aware of what life is like in south London? It really is desolation and despair.

He has heard of the loss of services we have had, but we have also suffered intimidation and attacks on the black and Asian *communities by the thugs of the* National Front, and nothing is ever done about this.

A combination of these events leads to the kind of events we have seen at the weekend.

The Home Secretary can have a dozen inquiries if he wants to, but unless the Government tackles the root causes of our problems in south London, sadly this will happen again, *and next* time it will not only be the destruction of property but it will be *the loss of lives as* well.

No one in this House should ever allow that situation to arise. *(Labour cheers.)*

Mr Whitelaw: I note what he says and the feeling with which he *says it.* I wish to have an inquiry and get to the root of some of these problems. I understand the *position* in south London. I have personal reasons for knowing.

Mr Anthony Grant (Harrow, Central, C): The Asian community in my constituency, which utterly deplores the disgraceful disorder in Brixton, enjoys an excellent relationship with the police and they will support the Home Secretary in what he has to do to maintain the first duty of a democratic government, which is to maintain law and order.

In the inquiry, the *terms of* reference should be wide enough *to cover the activities of organizations of extreme left and right masquerading under grandiose* titles such as the National Council *for Civil Liberties.*

Mr Whitelaw: I am grateful for what he says about the Asians. It *confirms* what I have said and believe is important to say again.

There are large numbers of coloured communities, both Asian and West Indian, who deeply deplore this and wish to have nothing to do with it.

On the second point, yes, I understand that the terms of reference would be able to include consideration of *those bodies in so* far as they contributed to the serious disorder in Brixton.

Mr Douglas Jay (Wandsworth, Battersea, North, Lab): It is clear that the police at least cannot be blamed for the Government's policy of deliberately creating unemployment.

Mr Whitelaw: In no way can police be blamed for the policies of this Government or any other Government, that includes all *parties over a long period of* time.

It is the duty of the police to serve the Government of the day and maintain law and order in accordance with the policies of the Government.

Mr David Mellor (Wandsworth, Putney, C): When we have wholesale looting and sacking as well as *indiscriminate violence against* policemen, firemen ambulancemen and ordinary members of the public, it would be grossly wrong and unfair to talk about social considerations when what we ought to be talking about is an act of sheer criminality.

The day we confuse the two is the day we speak of the end of civilized society.

Mr Whitelaw: I agree. Everything I have said is consistent with it. It must be that the police have the right to expect the full hearted support of everyone in this House to maintain law and order in our streets in accordance with what is laid down as policy in *this House.*

Mr Clinton Davis (Hackney, Central, Lab): Most of the House will welcome *the Home Secretary's* repudiation of the almost obscene views expressed by Mr Enoch Powell.

There have been many represen*tations made to me over the week*end by people in Hackney, which is an area not dissimilar to *Brixton*. There is a Niagara of discontent among young blacks who are being discriminated against over jobs, housing, and other matters.

While I have the greatest regard and respect for Lord Scarman, would the Home Secretary *extend* the membership of the inquiry so that the black community feels *there is somebody on the inquiry* who represents the black community?

Mr Whitelaw: I note what Mr Davis says about his area. I still believe it is in the interests of *solving this problem that* any inquiry set up should report urgently. I do not believe a long *inquiry as the right way to* proceed.

To have more than one person would inevitably lengthen the inquiry. That would not be in the interests of solving this problem.

Mr John Sever (Birmingham, Ladywood, Lab): Will the Home Secretary call together the chief *constables* and urge them to put into areas of high ethnic concentration, police officers who have *been adequately trained* and supervised in race relations so that they might fully appreciate the situation locally?

Mr Whitelaw: I agree and chief officers of police throughout the country are doing this. I will do everything possible to urge them further in that direction.

Mr George Gardiner (Reigate, C): Would he express a view on the mass rally which has been announced in Brixton for this coming weekend and press on those involved that this can only exacerbate relations further in *that territory to the detriment of* all its citizens.

Mr Whitelaw: I will investigate *the matter. Having announced the* inquiry, I hope everyone will seek to do their best to cool the situation on the ground now. I hope I will have support for having taken very quick and decisive action. (Cheers.)

Mr Edward Lyons (Bradford, West, SDP): It is time for substantial additional funds to be *provided. Many of the causes of* the problem can only be treated by more resources.

Mr Whitelaw: *I do not think we* can buy our way out of these particular problems.

Mr Thomas Benyon (Abingdon, C): What can the inquiry tell us that we do not know already? Does not the inquiry appear to make the violence worth while?

Mr Whitelaw: The inquiry should tell us why such serious disorder *erupted and the reasons behind* it which are important for the House to appreciate. That is the purpose of such an inquiry.

I would not accept that it will be encouraging violence. If we do not take action to make it clear to people, we are making the situation more dangerous.

Mr Norman Atkinson (Haringey, Tottenham, Lab): What social experience has Lord Scarman of areas like this which make him *particularly suitable* to carry out an investigation in a situation of this sort?

Mr Whitelaw: I think Lord Scarman will have the support of all sides of the House. (Cheers.) He has carried out many inquiries and is someone who is widely respected.

Mr John Stokes (Halesowen and Stourbridge, C): Does the Home Secretary realize what a peaceful country England has been for many years? Certainly riots on this scale have not happened for 200 years.

Are these not developments which are new and sinister in our *long national history?*

Mr Whitelaw: They are certainly a serious and worrying develop*ment which* this House must take account of.

We have proved to be over the generations an *extremely tolerant society*. I am sure everyone hopes that we shall continue to be so. *Our position as a nation depends* on being a tolerant and generous society.

Mr Nicholas Budgen (Wolverhampton, South-West, C): Will the inquiry make prosecutions more *difficult? Will he go so far as* to say that it would be wrong for the proper authorities to drop any prosecution, at least partly in the interests of good race relations?

Mr Whitelaw: *Obviously the question of prosecution is a matter for* the Director of Public Prosecutions and I *must preserve the correct* constitutional position.

I am advised at present that *there is no reason why charges* against those involved cannot proceed. Whether that continues to *be the case must depend on the* progress of the inquiry.

Mr Alan Clark (Plymouth, Sutton, C): *The widespread and indiscriminate use of the fire bomb* introduces a new element into public disturbances in this country.

Is it fair to ask the police to face that and other weapons, outnumbered, without giving them weapons or other means to retaliate?

What steps will Mr Whitelaw take to improve equipment and speed the possibility of reinforcement, if necesary, from other sources?

Mr Whitelaw: All the resources and reserves necessary were brought in as quickly as possible from the Metropolitan Police area and considering the problems, they were brought in very quickly and in sufficient numbers.

There is no problem about bringing in reserves in the Metropolitan area. In other areas, arrangements have been made.

Mr Roy Hattersley: It is in nobody's interest to limit the inquiry to policing of the area. What happened concerns jobs, housing, social services and, more than anything else, despair driving out hope in the area.

I urge him to look again at the prospect of extending the inquiry to consider the causes of what happened.

Mr Whitelaw: The Lambeth area partnership has been carrying out a major study of all those factors, as well as the inquiry by the Commons Select Committee.

When considering the policing of the area, it is effected by all the matters Mr Hatterslcy referred to, but I believe that the need *for a quick answer points* to this sort of inquiry.

I have no desire to limit it but I want to get an answer to what happened in the police and on the relationship between the police and the local population.

New offence might undo 'sus' repeal

House of Lords

Considering the harm it would un*doubtedly do, it was absurd to* introduce the new offence of interference with a motor vehicle or trailer with the intention of stealing it or anything carried in or on it, **Lord Mishcon** (Lab), for the Opposition, said during the second reading debate on the *Criminal* Attempts Bill. It was taking away much if not all of the good done by *the repeal of the suspected person* offence, he added.

The Opposition unequivocally welcomed the abolition of *that* offence, commonly known as "sus", and in general terms welcomed the Bill. In the case of the new offence which was to be created, even with the improvement brought about in the original clause by *the special standing* committee something highly injurious was being done.

***Lord Belstead**, Under Secretary of* State, Home Office, moving the *second reading of the Bill*, which has passed the Commons, said it was concerned with the reform and codification of an important part of common law and the repeal of an offence much criticized or its defects and effect on community

The Bill was also of interest *because it was the first to have* been the subject of the new special standing committee procedure in the *Commons. The evidence given* in the committee's open sessions led the Government to propose a number of significant changes to the Bill.

The police representative bodies had argued that the "sus" offence should be retained because it enabled the police to intervene before crimes were committed. The *Home Secretary* had paid *careful* attention to the views of the police but had concluded that these arguments were not sufficiently persuasive.

The Government believed that the simple repeal of the suspected person offence would leave the public insufficiently protected in important respects. The first and most *important was the frequency* with which "sus" was used in cases of individuals seen tampering with parked cars.

It therefore proposed the creation of a specific offence which would penalize interference with motor vehicles. The *prosecution* was required to prove that the act of interference was carried out with the *intention of* stealing the vehicle or its contents or load or taking and driving away without consent. *It did* not have to prove which of the offences the defendant intended to commit.

He said he was looking at this in the light of the weekend's events which had caused such dismay.

Was it not disastrous, in days of growing unemployment among youth, black and white, and when there was *evidence of tension* between this youth and the police in some areas, that this new offence should be introduced?

It had all the wrong points associated with the "sus" law and which had made the Government *decide to bury it.*

Lord Wigoder (L) said he welcomed the abolition of the "suspected person" offence though he did not believe the evidence supported the myth which had been put around that that measure had been operated deliberately in a racially discriminatory way. A lot of gibberish had been talked about this.

Lady Macleod of Borve (C) said the Magistrates' Association had *told her this morning that they* supported the Bill as amended. Magistrates would welcome the Bill so long as it proved it went far enough when used. Only time would tell.

This sort of offence was considered as petty crime but the loss to the owner of a car would sometimes be disastrous.

***Lord Pitt of Hampstead** (Lab) said* if the House decided that Clause 9, creating the offence of interference, was necessary, peers must see to what extent it could be tightened so that it did not bring the same problems as the "suspected person" provision caused.

Many people had said they were unjustly dealt with under the pre*vious offence. Jury trial would* help here.

Lord Avebury (L) said there was need for something in the law which dealt with the problem of interference with vehicles, even if it was not exactly as in the Bill. *Almost any price was worth paying* to get rid of the offence of "sus". He would be happy to have the clause creating the new offence as it stood if it meant getting the Bill on to the statute book as soon as possible.

Lord Gifford (Lab) said the reason for the widespread agitation and call for the repeal of the "*sus*" *law was that* the law was being abused. There was overwhelming evidence that this was being done.

Even less evidence was required to form the basis of a case under the Bill's provisions than was *needed for "sus". A policeman* should be able to watch and wait. Cases which relied only on proof of some insignificant preparatory or initial act were dangerous.

The Bill was read a second time.

The Interpretation of Legislation Bill was read the third time and passed.

The British Railways (Victoria) *Bill completed its remaining* stages.

House adjourned, 9.49 pm

Motorway service areas bitterly criticized for high food and fuel prices

After Conservative and Labour MPs had complained of rotten catering, racketeering and rip-offs *at motorway service areas,* **Mrs Sally Oppenheim**, Minister of State for Consumer Affairs, admitted that many services were unsatisfactory and expensive.

She said that if the situation did not improve the Director General of Fair Trading would consider whether a reference to the Monopolies and Mergers Com*mission would be appropriate.*

Mr Hugh Dykes (Harrow East, C) asked the Secretary of State for Trade to use his powers under the Fair Trading Act 1973 to cause an investigation to be made into the *trading practices of motorway service* stations.

Mrs Sally Oppenheim (Gloucester, C): *Neither the Secretary of State* for Trade (Mr Biffen) nor the Director General of Fair Trading has any *plans to refer the trading* practices of motorway service areas to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission at present.

A number of matters relating to competition and consumer protection are being discussed between Mr Biffen, the Secretary of State for Transport (Mr Norman Fowler) and the operators. *Naturally I, too,* am keeping a close eye on the consumer considerations involved.

Mr Dykes: Mrs Oppenheim should reconsider the first part of her answer and think again carefully about this. The scene is dismal and appalling.

The public are confronted now more and more with the awful three Rs of rotten catering and facilities, racketeering over food and petrol charges, and rip-offs *on car repair costs.*

To give one example, it is not possible to get the AA or RAC on to garage forecourts to get the broken down cars to repair them. They hve to be done on the spot.

Mrs Oppenheim: I am unable to disguise an expression of sympathy with his remarks. It is *true many motorists find that the* services provided at motorway service areas are unsatisfactory and expensive.

At the same time, it should be noted some areas have high standards and are deservedly popular. These standards should not be the exception, they should be the rule.

Mr Fergus Montgomery (Altrincham and Sale, C): Sympathy is not enough. We have waited too *long for* action *on these service* stations. People are sick of rip-offs on food and petrol prices.

As this Government believes in competition, the sooner we have some action, the better for everyonce concerned. *(Cheers.)*

Mrs Oppenheim: I agree. Sympathy is not enough and the situation as it exists is not acceptable.

The Secretary of State for Transport hopes to encourage more competition between operators by selling long-term leases and *give them greater commercial* freedom, but this will have to be monitored carefully indeed to ensure it results in higher standards. Mr Fowler is now discussing a star rating system for the motorway operators.

Mr Peter Hardy (Rother Valley, Lab): Since she will not take action with the Director General of Fair Trading, she should *publicly urge people to fill up their* cars with petrol before they enter *a motorway and to use service* areas to eat their own sandwiches

Mrs Oppenheim: I am disap*pointed. I thought I had been* helpful and sympathetic. I understand that advice is often given to tourists, for example by car rental firms, about the existence of off-motorway, nearby service stations, which may offer lower prices and better services.

I think there is scope for more widespread provision of such information. Any information which increases competition is welcome, and if it leads to general improve*ment and higher standards, I am* in favour of that.

Mr John Smith, chief Opposition *spokesman on trade North* Lanarkshire, Lab): So far in her replies, Mrs Oppenheim has refused to commit the Government to any action whatsoever on a matter on which both sides of the House have expressed deep and justifiable concern.

Will she refer the question of pricing at motorway stations to the *Office of Fair Trading* under section 13 of the Competition Act which gives powers to the Government and not rely on the advices of voluntary organizations?

Mrs Oppenheim: If pricing was the only problem, that might be a solution, but it is not. It is the standard of services. That is why Mr Fowler is carrying out negotiations.

I agree the current situation is not satisfactory. It needs to improve. If it does not, obviously the Director General of Fair Trading—and it is a matter *entirely for him*—will take *note* of what is said, and consider whether a reference is appropriate.

Budget critics misunderstand basic objective

Those people who described the Budget as "deflationary" misunderstood the basic objectives of Government strategy, **Mr Leon Brittan**, Chief Secretary to the Treasury, said when he moved the second reading of the Finance Bill.

The misunderstanding arose from looking at the Budget in isolation, rather than in the context of the Government's whole policy, including its expenditure response to the recession.

***Mr Brittan** (Cleveland and Whitby,* C) said recent history suggested "reflation" simply led to more *inflation* and higher unemployment. The problem of the economy was not lack of monetary demand. Between 1977 and 1980, total final expenditure on goods and services increased by more than 50 per cent in money terms, but only 5 per cent in real terms. The *GDP* rose by less than two per cent in this period.

Specific measures to encourage enterprise and small business were much more significant than revenue costs might imply because of their implications for re-vitalising the enterprise sector.

There must be further substantial reduction in wage increases in the next pay round if the decline in competitiveness was to be reversed.

The February figures for manufacturing production, seasonally *adjusted, published today, Showed* a rise of 1 per cent and for total industrial production they showed *a rise of 0.75 per cent.*

The renewed growth would come in the main from the reversal of the factors which had been responsible for the sharp fall in activity over the past two years. Rapid destocking should come to an end. There should be a sharp decline in the rate of destocking in the second half of 1981.

The savings ratio reached a record 17 per cent in the second half of 1980. The reasons were related to the effects of inflation with people savings more to preserve the real value of their financial wealth. The ratio was likely to fall as inflation continued to decline. Most observers expected to see some upturn in the world *economy this year.*

So there were good prospects for the beginnings of some recovery in output during 1981-82. This did not mean that unemployment would start falling immediately and it was only realistic to expect it to on rising *for some time* yet.

The faster we can make further inroads into inflation (he said) the *earlier we can* expect to find unemployment falling.

One of the main purposes of the Budget was to limit public borrowing; that could only be done by putting up taxes and almost half of the increase consisted of an extra £1,200m from the duty on petrol and derv.

To suggest that anything approaching this sum could have been raised from further increases in the other indirect taxes was wholly unrealistic.

Even after the increases, the tax on petrol was no less in real terms than it was in *1970,* or *1960* or 1950, and before the Budget the price of petrol in the United Kingdom was *the lowest in the EEC* except for Germany; it was now broadly in line with the rest of the *Community.*

Of course (he said), I recognize the people living in rural areas are *understandably* worried. They often have to travel long distances to work or to do the shopping, and depend on the motor car. Representing a rural constituency, I am only too well aware of the strength of this feeling.

Some individuals were certainly particularly badly affected but, looking at the picture as a whole, the *evidence of independent* studies suggested that while rural motorists travelled on average about 8 per cent further a year than urban motorists, the extra mileage could often be balanced by better fuel consumption per mile. (Labour protests.)

When all was said and done, the fuel duty increases were bound to be unpopular with many peole and understandably so. But they were necessary if the Government was *to achieve its main objective:* a sustained reduction in the rate of inflation as a foundation for a healthy economic recovery.

For the same reason, the Government believed it was entitled to ask people this year to bear a somewhat heavier burden of income tax than anybody would have wished. The decisions on that were not at all easy.

Since the higher rate threshold and rate bands were unchanged as *well, the largest cuts in real in*come would fall, perfectly reasonably, on those with high incomes.

Like the other provisions dealing with the raising of revenue, the special tax on banking deposits had to be seen in the context of the substantial effort the Government was making this year to constrain the PSBR.

The banks had benefited, almost inevitably, from the high interest rates of the last two years. These *had made a substantial contribution* to their high profit at a time when profits in the rest of the economy had been under increasing pressure, not least because of the burden of interest payments.

Mr Peter Shore, chief Opposition spokesman on Treasury and economic affairs (Tower Hamlets, Stepney *and Poplar, Lab)* said the Opposition rejected the Bill on five major charges. First, it would add, through its increases *in taxation,* to the deflation that the country was already grievously experiencing. It would reduce the capacity of the people to buy the output of their already under-used factories and increase the level of unemploy*ment which was already at record* levels.

Second, the measures in the Bill increased the burden of costs upon industries already suffering from fierce competition at home and abroad.

Third, the tax measures singled out particular industries for exceptional and disproportionate burdens.

Fourth, the Bill increased overall the direct taxation on the people and brought into the tax net thousands on very low incomes.

Finally, the impact of the tax measures on income tax and the *changes in capital taxation* were perversely redistributive and totally unfair.

When challenged about the deflationary effect of the Budget, the Government had been extremely evasive and contradictory.

The CBI's latest forecast was that unemployment would remain on an upward trend throughout the period to the fourth period of 1982. By the end of 1982 they expected a figure of 3,250,000 unemployed.

The appalling events of Brixton were rightly in their minds today. *When large numbers of young* people were forced into idleness and lost hope of employment there *was a background all* too conducive to mischief, crime and alienation from the wider society.

The Budget had *not only* failed to assist the competitiveness of industry but it had increased the total fiscal burden *this year*—a year in which industry faced a continued fall in output

He asked for a firm *Government* commitment to restore in full the cut in unemployment benefit before the new measure about tax*ation of unemployment benefit* before the new measure about taxation of unemployment benefit came into effect.

Clauses in the Bill dealing with capital transfer tax would weaken still further the still inadequate taxation of wealth.

There was a high probability that PSBR would overshoot the £10,500m which was the current target. If last year's pattern was repeated, they would get further public expenditure cuts in November to reduce PSBR again. That would prove inadequate so *that in all probability they would* face another deflationary, tax-increasing Budget in 12 months.

Mr Maurice Macmillan (Farnham, C) said a failure of the capitalist system had been that wages had tended to be too high for the effective growth of companies to be maintained and higher in terms of income than shareholders were getting out of the business. The Government should think again about encouraging schemes of *employeee shareholding to enable* people to participate in their companies and to give them seom stake in the *reinvested profits.*

That was the only non-inflationary way in the longer to meet the expectations of people in industry as industry expanded, and to encourage people to be willing to supply to match their expectations.

Sir Harold Wilson (Huyton, Lab) said the House should be concerned that the proposed windfall *profits tax on the banks was likely* to obliterate practically all the profits of the Giro and domestic banks such as the Co-operative Bank which had no offsetting overseas earnings.

He hoped the Chancellor would take action to safeguard them from the possible lethal consequences of the proposed tax.

He welcomed the measures to help small businesses but said there was more the Chancellor could have done.

His committee on the review of financial institutions looked froward to seeing more small firms *helped by big firms.* Its recommendations for a change in the law on taxation to allow small companies *to raise equity in a redeemable* from should be examined by the Departments of Trade and Industry and by the Treasury.

Mr Peter Tapsell (Horncastle, C) said that four major errors of technical judgement had contributed to the exceptionally bad economic performance of this country over the past 12 months. They were the excessively high *interest* rate policy, the excessively high exchange rate policy, an excessively tight credit policy for agriculture, business and industry and the uncompetitive industrial energy pricing policy.

The *decision* to move to an MLR of 17 per cent in the winter of 1979-80 and to retain a high interest *rate structure* for a ong period after that was a grave error of judgment. Far from reducing *inflation it helped to feed it.* The only justification for the Government's policies, however harsh in terms of ruined firms *and broken* lives, would be permanently to stop inflation and provide the foundation for a lasting recovery and prosperity.

Presumably that was what the authors of the policy believed. He could see no evidence that they were likely to be proved right. He believed that a year from now, if these policies were continued, not only would unemployment still be on a rising trend, probably over 3 *million a year, but that inflation* would also be on a rising trend.

The Finance Bill would postpone any recovery *in the economy until* the middle of 1982 at east unless there was a change of policy.

Economic and political *pressures* would *force* a change of policy to one more similar to those of France and Germany. Perhaps a change would come as soon as July, more probably the autumn, perhaps not until next winter, but when it came it would be more abrupt and extreme as a consequence of this Budget than it otherwise would have been.

Mr Terence Higgins (Worthing, C) said he was not advocating a U-turn but the Government must be more explicit in what it intended to do about demand. The Government knew that if it was to reas*sure industry an admission about* the level of demand was important.

Mr Kenneth Woolmer (Batley and Morley, Lab) said it was a savagely deflationary Budget brought in at a time of deep recession. It would pile agony on to injury. The market-place free-for-all could not succeed.

Mr Christopher Patten (Bath, C) said the Government should have at least halved the surcharge paid by employers on national insurance contributions *and* guaranteed to remove the remainder in the next Finance Bill. A reduction *would help fight inflation,* rebuild profits, make industry more competitive, help exports and end the absurd position where they subsidized employment on the one hand and increased its costs on the other.

Mr Richard Wainwright (Colne Valley, L) said the income tax changes were a surrender by the Government in relation to their explicit election promises. In real terms the increase in income tax *for the average taxpayer* since the Government came to power was 5 per cent.

Mr Eldon Griffiths (Bury St Edmunds, C) said that the petrol tax increase was inflationary and discriminatory. The cost of halving it from 20p to 10p could be recovered through savings on public expenditure.

Mr John Horam (Gateshead, West, Soc Dem) said that the standard rate of income tax should be *increased. That was preferable* to the failure to increase the threshold which meant that the tax burden fell on the poorest people.

Mr Robert Sheldon, an Opposition spokesman on Treasury and economic affairs (Ashton-under-Lyne, Lab) said *that* if the increases in the petroland derv duty had been spread over a longer period they might have been more manageable.

The most iniquitous and spiteful part of the Finance Bill concerned *the repayment of income* tax. It prevented access to one's own money.

***Mr Peter Rees**, Minister of State,* Treasury (Dover and Deal, C) said that the Government was sensitive *to the need to balance* two factors on oil taxation to ensure a *proper* return to the country from the exploitation of the North Sea and not to discourage people from investing there. It was a delicate balance.

If the oil companies or other sources could devise a more constructive and more sensitive regime, the Government would be happy to return to those matters because the tax would only enacted for the three *accounting periods* which ended in June next year.

The Bill was read a second time by 309 *votes to 253*—Goverment majority, 56.

Parliamentary notices

House of Commons

Today at 2.30. Transport Bill, remaining stages.

House of Lords

Today at 2.30: Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) (Scotland) Bill second reading and Harbours (Transport of Farm Animals) Bill, second reading.

New safety regulations for household products likely

House of Commons

The Government intended shortly to circulate safety regulations on suitable *warning* labels for household products which could be dangerous to children, **Mrs Sally Oppenheim**, Minister of State for Consumer Affairs, said during questions on the need for adequate labelling *of* hazardous domestic products in view of the number of accidents involving children.

Mrs Oppenheim (Gloucester, C) said: I am only too aware of the many tragic accidents from poisoning to children every year that arise from such household products as cleaning and polishing agents, disinfectants, solvents and paints.

I agree that the best way to prevent such accidents is by suit*able warning* labels and I intend shortly to circulate safety regulations on the matter.

Mr Archibald Hamilton (Epsom and Ewell, C): That reply is encouraging because of the danger faced by *children with* the increasing use of toxic substances in the home.

Mrs Oppenheim: This matter has concerned me since I introduced a ten-minute rule Bill in 1972. I have given instructions for the EEC legislation and the Health and Safety Executive draft regulations to be swiftly *examined* to see if they adequately cover potentially dangerous household products that are bought and used *in the home.*

If they do not to my satisfaction, I will *introduce legislation* accordingly under the Consumer Safety Act.

Mr Kenneth Lewis (Rutland and Stamford, C): Can she assure us that this will apply to imports? *Many imports of household goods* and other things are inadequately explained and we could keep a good many imports out on that basis.

Mrs Oppenheim: Any regulations will apply to all goods sold in shops for use in the home in this country.

Mr Greville Janner (Leicester, West, Lab): As, unfortunately, the children who are most affected will not be able to read the warning *labels, it would be a better idea to* proceed with legislation to require the provision of child-resistant containers for these household products.

Mrs Oppenheim: He has raised an important point which we have considered. The proposal under the EEC directive was that symbols should be shown which could be learnt by children and which will *adequately warn parents.*

One of the main problems with household products is that most *people think they are safe* and keep them under the kitchen sink, so the main objective is to warn parents. It is neither necessary nor practical to use child-proof containers although this applies to medicinal products.

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A want of intonation

Allegri Quartet
Wigmore Hall

Hilary Finch

Just as singers can take inspiration from the particular qualities and approaches of string playing, so string players can, and many do, take example from singers. Had the Allegri Quartet, in their contribution on Saturday to the Wigmore Hall's excellent Dvorak and Grieg series, thought more vocally, their playing may well have avoided those negative elements which ran through and enervated their performance of all three works.

The humid evening cannot have helped the temperament of either the players or their instruments. But, despite much retuning and brow-mopping between movements, intonation was constantly unsure, particularly in the first violin, and most painfully so in the first movement of the Dvorak Quartet in D minor, op 34, and the Berg *Lyric Suite*, with its superfine sonorities. Here imprecise intonation, particularly in the *pianissimo* phrases and sustained chords of the Adagio appassionato and the wide leaps of the opening of the last movement, so often sapped the music's emotional life.

An absence of sense of shape and direction of the melodic line dimmed the opening "sunrise" of Haydn's Quartet op 76 no 4; but it was the raucous, unrefined tone of the playing, the lack of colouring of the voices, that grated most consistently. The finale of the Haydn, for instance, specifies *mezza voce*: had it been observed its edginess would have been transformed into impishness.

Anticipatory flecks of sound (particularly noticeable in the Haydn), imprecise ensemble (at the beginning of the slow movement of the Dvorak I heard four quite disconnected notes in the opening close-harmony muted chord) and an insufficient selection of voices (essential above all in the Berg) all revealed a lack of concentrated listening. Too often the inner parts seemed pushed aside, a greater pity since Prunella Pacey's viola playing was some of the most musical. Her last dying bars in the Berg sweetened the taste of the evening.

It was a combination of all these factors, but above all a lack of true focusing of energies that made the Berg, a work in which atmosphere and expression seem to form the very structure of the music, ultimately so disappointing.

There's no mistaking a Giacometti

Giacometti
Serpentine Gallery

Giacometti: Paintings
Thomas Gibson
Fine Art

Spotlight: Four Centuries of Ballet Costume
Victoria and Albert Museum

It is curious how we always seem to have difficulties dealing with families of artists. Somehow the very idea of several painters, or actors, or composers with the same surname sets up conflicts, as though, in a world which would have room and to spare for so many talented individuals under different names, we have room for only one major figure at a time with the same name. If reference is made to "Giacometti", *tout court*, it would hardly ever occur to anyone—outside Switzerland, at least—to ask which one. And yet at least two relatives of Alberto were significant figures in art: his father Giovanni was a brilliant Post-Impressionist, unrepresented unfortunately in the Royal Academy's *Post-Impressionism* show last year, and his half-cousin Augusto was a very early abstractionist in the lyrical/mystical free-form style unrepresented unfortunately at the Tate's *Abstraction* show last year. No doubt their unfamiliarity abroad has something to do with their being Swiss, and therefore not obviously belonging to any mainstream of modern art. But it has much more to do, I am sure, with the fact that the younger Giacometti appropriated their name for his exclusive use.

Alberto never seems to have had too much problem with his Swissness. Unlike his painter-relatives, he was not long content to live and work in Switzerland: indeed, from the age of 21 (in 1922) he lived almost all his life in Paris, and, if any national identity at all was attributed to him, it was most likely to be French. He became well known first in Paris, then elsewhere, and achieved a particularly high reputation in Britain, where, rather surprisingly, he must have been since the war easily the most famous and familiar contemporary foreign sculptor. Maybe there was something self-denying about his emaciated, knobbly, stick-like figures which had a special appeal to the British temperament: you were in no doubt that he was serious, you could never accuse him of succumbing to the blandishments of the senses (his sculptures must be among the least touchable or tempting to touch) and at least he was ferociously consistent.

Just how consistent we can gauge from the smallish yet remarkably comprehensive show of his work at the Serpentine until May 17, along with a complementary show of his paintings at Thomas Gibson Fine Art, 9a New Bond Street, until May 1. What the sculptures at the Serpentine show above all is the progressive, quite voluntary limitation of his means and purposes which took place between 1926, the date of *Spoon-Woman*, the first bronze in the collection, and 1947, the date of the first "typical Giacometti" stick-figure, also a standing woman. The trouble is, the earlier works are much the more exciting: one has a real feeling of risk, the possibility of going any number of ways under the influence of cubism, surrealism or primitive art. Later, though the brand-image is clearly visible and one would never mistake a Giacometti for anyone else, the impression is unavoidable of a stylistic sausage-machine into which all kinds of material can be fed and come out looking exactly the same.

This is why I can never understand Giacometti's biographers making so much point of exactly when he gave up working from life or took it up again. It seems not to make a jot of difference either way, so oppressive does his stylistic formula become. I have to admit that there is a certain theatrical kind of mystery about his groups of ambiguously related stick-figures, like *The Square* (1949) or *The Glade* (1950), and that some of his rather etiolated later painted landscapes have a wan fascination. But the portraits, painted or sculpted, become very monotonous and profoundly unilluminating whether of how the sitters really look or of what kind of person they are. But go back to the early sculptures, such as the *Watching Head* of 1928, an almost-abstract which might be by Moore or Hepworth, or the very funny and precisely titled *Disagreeable Object* of 1931, a tilted wooden piece with a horn-spike coming out of the top and two little stunted legs, or the elegant, classic *Walking Woman* of 1932, a slim nymphet body with no head or arms, and you will feel a really powerful sculptural imagination at work. Sad that later on form should so suddenly and completely degenerate into formula.





Giacometti's *Annette assise* of 1958 (far left); and costumed designed by Miro for Tamara Toumanova in *Jeux d'enfants* (1932)

In a sense costume-designing is a species of sculptural thought. And there are those among the great couturiers who cannot draw to save their lives, but work it all out on the spot by draping and gathering and snipping and tucking actually on the model—for all the world like a sculptor who can function only when he is able to come to grips with the raw material, the living stone or clay. But this is not invariably the case with costume designers, particularly for the theatre. Inigo Jones, for instance, obviously regarded himself as a practical costume designer as well as all sorts of other things, and naturally, if he was designing the whole visual side of a masque, included costumes along with the rest. But the way artists celebrated in other media have gone about it in the twentieth century is more self-conscious.

Frequently, snobbery seems to have played as important a part as anything else. Diaghilev, for all his famous instinct for the sort of artistic chemistry which could bring the most unlikely collaborators successfully together to produce something wholly new, was clearly influenced by snobbish considerations when he brought in the famous painters of his day to design ballets for him, and many of them seem to have been unable, or unwilling, to adapt themselves to the stage, expecting the stage instead to adapt itself to them. One of the lessons to be learnt from the Victoria and Albert's spectacular new show *Spotlight: Four Centuries of Ballet Costume* (until July 26) is that big names in other fields do not necessarily produce the best costumes. It is fascinating to see the original drawings by, say, Braque, Chirico, Derain, Gabo, Gris, Matisse and Picasso, but it may well turn out in practice that the costumes of admittedly much lesser artists happen to be more inventive as well as very likely more practical.

It is the most singular advantage of the show that we are not, as usual, left to use our imagination on the original designs and maybe a few fading photographs, or even (more misleading in the long run) to judge from specially reconstituted versions in all the wrong fabrics, as was the case with the famous New York show of movie costumes a few years ago. The climax of this exhibition, after we have passed through a quick conspectus of design history, is the large hall where 77 original costumes are displayed. Though there is a group of amazingly well-preserved eighteenth-century Italian stage costumes, most of them come, naturally, from the twentieth century, right through to only yesterday (one of Andy Klunder's costumes for the Royal Ballet's *Gloria* last year is the most recent).

Of course, the originals, seen in cold blood rather than invested with the glamour of theatrical distance and stage lighting, may well prove rather disenchanting, whatever the interest in seeing at close quarters exactly how illusion is created. The exhibition's organizers have sought to counterbalance this by arranging the presentation in thoroughly theatrical terms: an ever-changing light-show which has a complete computerized cycle of about half an hour. This is certainly irritating to the serious student, and no doubt to some less serious, since it means that, as soon as you have found something you want to take a long, hard look at, all the lights go out, or the light from one side fades while that from the other glares, and you have to make the most of the brief lucid intervals to read the captions properly. On the other hand, this form of dramatized presentation does effectively stop us from noting too destructively the fading of the finery, and give us some inkling of what the costumes would have looked like in action.

As a bonus, it is interesting to compare, as the show enables us frequently to do, the finished costume with the original design, and sometimes, as in the case of Miro's costume for Toumanova as the top in *Jeux d'enfants*, with a photograph of the costume worn as well. It is a show anyone can enjoy on the most superficial level. Those who want to get something more out of it will find they have to work quite hard, but that the effort of running backwards and forwards from room to room or waiting until the best light comes back will be amply rewarded.

John Russell Taylor

BBCSO/Wright

Albert Hall/Radio 3

City of London Sinfonia/Hickox
Queen Elizabeth Hall

Paul Griffiths

The BBC's Berlioz festival came to its climax on Sunday with a performance of the Requiem so stark and powerful as to make it seem wrong that the audience should be seated in comfort looking on; we ought to have been trembling on our knees. Brian Wright, the conductor, kept a close control on his vast forces in a successful effort to make everything strange, sombre and severe. There was no wasted drama, no undue flamboyance. The brass groups spread about the place made their solemn entries with more implacable force than splendour, and the BBC Symphony Chorus, raised to a higher power by members of other choirs, sang with the monolithic assent of a populace at prayer.

Stuart Burrows, the single soloist retained by Berlioz for a single movement, quite properly made his line as plain and unoperatic as he could, emphasizing in this one departure from the norm how the work is really concerned with humanity in the mass. Similarly, Mr Wright never let the orchestra exceed its rightful role of supporting, echoing and punctuating the voices, even though he showed magnificently what awesome blend of tone-colour the score is capable of. Altogether is was a performance that dispensed with everything suave in phrasing, exuberant in rhythm or grandiose in effect. It was a communal act of grim purpose, a Requiem for the living and fearful.

From public ceremonial to private meditation; on Friday in the Queen Elizabeth Hall the huge output of Georg Telemann was sampled for his passion oratorio *Der tod Jesu*, presented in what must have been its British premiere by Richard Hickox with his own choir and the City of London Sinfonia.

Given the subject matter this was not entirely a happy enterprise. The interest is drained from the choruses and chorales, and focused instead on elaborate recitatives and arias for the soloists while the text, in the tradition of Bach's cantatas rather than his passions, concentrates on personal response to Christ's death, not biblical narration.

As a result the work loses Bach's generality and often becomes maudlin or even offensive in its flagellatory gloating as when the contralto luxuriates to jabbed string chords on the ripping of nails through "nerve and vein and bone".

Book review

Sparks Fly Upward
By Stewart Granger
(*Granada, £7.95*)

Though *The Man in Grey* and *Caravan* and *Madonna of the Seven Moons* made him one of the most popular film stars in Britain, Stewart Granger could still complain to a friend that such "junk" was wasting his talent and getting him despised by his fellow actors. "It's better than digging ditches, mate", came the reply, "don't ever forget that."

Granger was born James Stewart but they had a James Stewart in Hollywood so he had to change. His career was like that; he was never, despite a run of box office success, his own master. The dreaded seven-year contract was the price of fame for actors not quite strong or big enough to tell J. Arthur Rank, or Howard Hughes, or Louis B. Mayer to go to hell. Granger never made things comfortable for his employers and was one of the few to take on Howard Hughes in the courts and win. But he could not buck the studio system and when the system itself began to crumble. Granger was a fading star.

He was, by his own account, a reluctant star, anyway. Plucked from the worthy obscurity of Birmingham Rep and an Old Vic season under Tyrone Guthrie, he found himself, rather to his surprise, with top billing opposite Phyllis Calvert and Margaret Lockwood and the other Gainsborough ladies. But he got typecast as a swashbuckler, a sort of English Douglas Fairbanks, and found the constant press interviews and personal appearances hard to sustain. Along the way he fell in love with a succession of beautiful women but his public image had to be maintained. Rank, the Methodist, sternly rebuked him for his liaison with the young Jean Simmons, unaware that Granger had already divorced his wife.

In Hollywood, it was much the same story. When Granger and Simmons did eventually marry, the ceremony was bizarrely stage managed by Howard Hughes in order to keep the press away. Granger drank too much champagne and threw up. As he wryly remarks: "I just didn't feel married". He found himself yoked once more to a string of mediocre costume pictures and seemed always to miss out on the big opportunities—the new Carol Reed film, the latest John Huston, the re-make of *A Star is Born* (he had a row with the director, Cukor, and walked out) and *Ben Hur*. Instead he got *King Solomon's Mines*, *Scaramouche* and *Beau Brummel*. Even then, Granger was not always first choice, as the director of *King Solomon's Mines*, Compton Bennett, tactlessly made clear: "I have to tell you right now that I wanted Errol Flynn for the part".

Such anecdotes are the stuff of Granger's memoirs, an ample 400-page volume. He knows how to tell a good story, often against himself, and despite the over-employment of four letter words the book has a ring of authenticity that puts it well above the average for its genre. The narrative ends, not inappropriately, in 1960. Granger had just made his last big Hollywood film, *North to Alaska*, and the marriage to Jean Simmons was over. The rest would have been anticlimax; or perhaps, in a way, it was all anticlimax. But, as the man said, it was better than digging ditches, and one of the good things about this cheerfully uninhibited book is that it stirs no dirt and bears no grudges.

Peter Waymark

Uneven response to Walton

Philharmonia/Muti
Festival Hall

Max Harrison

There always was a southern, one might say specifically Mediterranean, aspect to Sir William Walton's early music, such as *Siesta*, and so it was interesting to go to the Festival Hall on Sunday to discover what Italian artists would make of his Viola Concerto, itself the most valuable of his early works. It is an ambiguous as well as an ambitious score and, after the precedents of Bax's Viola Sonata of a few years before, places its scherzo-like movement in the middle, its slow movement last.

In the event, Riccardo Muti, conducting the Philharmonia Orchestra, and Bruno Giuranna, the soloist, made a distinctly uneven response, but were best in the rhapsodic opening movement. Here, indeed, Mr Muti adjusted well to the music's innate ebb and flow, to its fitful way of breathing and to the bitter-sweet false relations in its harmony.

Mr Giuranna's tone is strong yet not particularly large, dark but with plenty of apparent sinew, and so it was disappointing that he did now give a more positive lead in the scherzo. Here materialistic vigour is knocked off-centre by jazz-like rhythmic distortions and acrid self-mockery, and it was precisely these qualities that seemed to disconcert both conductor and soloist.

The whole should have been far more aggressive and brass and woodwind in particular ought to have bitten much harder. Better contact was made with the finale, which is the longest and most closely argued of Walton's three movements, where the music often yearns over a stalking bassline.

The climax, before the quiet coda wherein lies the composition's heart, went especially well, and the coda itself is one of those very rare passages that in nearly all circumstances provides an affecting experience. But essentially we had listened

Imogen Cooper
Queen Elizabeth Hall

Noël Goodwin

A chronological progress from Haydn to Bartók, by way of Schubert and Liszt, is no doubt the expected sequence for a recital programme, as Imogen Cooper performed it at her concert in the South Bank Piano Series on Sunday afternoon. Yet I wonder if our younger recitalists might not give more thought to changing this kind of structure, now that we have begun to accept that historical progression is not necessarily the most musically rewarding.

In this instance an exchange of Haydn to the end and Bartók to the start would have been fascinating in the demands of tension and release on the listener, and in relation to neighbouring works in the two halves of the programme. The early *14 Bagatelles* of Bartók, with their almost pioneering excursions into bitonality, constitute a point of reference, both forward and back, in the history of piano music, as they also encompass a variety of keyboard effects.

Miss Cooper's account of them was both studious in character and proficient in technique, with particular pleasure in the rubato pieces and those of a more capricious nature. As it was, they had a welcome cleansing effect after the turgid emotional flagwaggery of three concert studies by Liszt, where a certain stiffness in phrasing exposed the shallowness of purpose, and pressure at the upper end of the keyboard produced a touch of tonal distortion not apparent in Bartók.

Except for a hurried pace that ran away with aspects of detail in the finale of Schubert's A minor Sonata, D845, the pianist's feeling for the nature of this work in vivid articulation and subtle shading brought much pleasure. The variations of the second movement were almost Haydnesque in their classical poise, whereas the slow movement in Haydn's F Major Sonata of 1773 was contrastingly Schubertian in a performance of stylistic polish and engaging delight.

Some of the reviews on this page are reprinted from yesterday's later editions

Football

Ipswich fear the worst will happen

By Norman Fox
Football Correspondent

A championship that, until three weeks ago, seemed to be balanced in favour of Ipswich Town, is now weighted against them. A final push by Aston Villa at Villa Park tonight could bring the decisive separation of dissimilar but worthy teams who have been near-rivals for most of the season. Circumstances leave no doubt that Villa have an alluring chance, despite injuries, to secure a first division title that they have won six times, but not once since 1910.

Ipswich are scarred and on Saturday in their FA Cup semi-final defeat by Manchester City at this same Villa ground they were nearly spent. They lost Beattie with a broken arm after he, more than anyone, had given hope that the treble of League, FA Cup and Uefa Cup was not a mirage that would disappear as they got closer. The treble has evaporated and the haunting fear of ending the season without a trophy is not easily removed.

Several Ipswich players received minor injuries on Saturday but only Beattie is unavailable this evening and for the rest of the season. Wark is hopeful of overcoming knee bruising and if as expected, the team who finished against City begin tonight, McCall will be at left back and Butcher in the centre of defence.

Although there is no refuting that the stress of the campaign has to be considered against Ipswich's chances, they could yet prove to be nearer full strength than Villa, who are doubtful about Mortimer, Williams and Gibson and have chosen an inexperienced young defender, Blake, in a party of 15.

Villa's main worry is that Williams, who has a hamstring injury, may not be fit enough to replace Evans, who is suspended. Williams missed the match against West Bromwich Albion last week, but trained yesterday without too much discomfort. If he should prove unfit, Blake may be given a place.

Ron Saunders, Villa's manager, has not disclosed whether he will include Shaw who, despite his excellent form earlier in the season, was rested against Albion and replaced by Geddis. Bobby Robson, Ipswich's manager, considers that tiredness is a problem but not the crucial factor. Overcoming the disappointment of Saturday's defeat is, he claims, the more important task before a game in which a defeat is "unthinkable". Whereas Villa are a more traditional, persistent team, Ipswich depend more on high confidence to carry out their touch football, particularly through the talents of Muhren and Thijssen.



Robson: frown of one to whom defeat tonight is unthinkable.

Manchester City discovered that perseverance could triumph on the day even if, as their manager, John Bond, admitted seven or eight times out of 10 Ipswich would have won. The match tonight, although the climax of a long season, is all too much like another single examination for Ipswich's liking.

Villa have suffered from the compliments that have blown like a prevailing wind towards East Anglia. Their own efforts have been praiseworthy although without being dressed with outstanding individual skill. Shaw, not at his best this late in the season, is a particularly good prospect. Cowans and Morley have uncommon ability but no team built by Mr Saunders can conceal that they thrive on hard, collective industry.

The work of Withe, Mortimer, McNaught, Evans and Bremner is Villa's foundation and I expect them to benefit from Ipswich's unfortunate excess of important fixtures by winning and taking a five-point lead sufficient to bring the title to hand. Mr Robson's admission that "there is just too much to do at the end of the season" suggests that he is preparing the Ipswich supporters for disappointment. Yet a win with a game in hand would act as a powerful tonic.

Tottenham Hotspur have announced that there will be no changes in their team to meet Wolverhampton Wanderers in tomorrow's FA Cup semi-final replay at Highbury and Wolves hope that Eves, who missed the first game with a back injury, will be fit. Hughes, who has a knee injury that he has lived with for some time, may not be ready and Hibbitt, the central figure in the controversy over a penalty on Saturday, has a groin strain.

If Wolves now regret their agreement to hold the replay at Highbury, so close to Tottenham's own ground, they can seek some consolation in the record books. Tottenham may have lost only two out of 17 cup ties played in London during the past two seasons, but they have not won at Highbury for five years.

The original decision to hold the replay at Highbury was made with the approval of both clubs because the game on Saturday at Sheffield was closer to Wolverhampton than Tottenham.

Three banned: Sheffield United, only two points clear of the third division relegation positions, had three players suspended by a Football Association commission in Birmingham yesterday. Kenworthy was suspended for two games, and Macphail and Neville one each. All three had reached 20 disciplinary points.

Kenworthy will miss the game at Plymouth today and Saturday's match at Brentford. Macphail is ruled out of the Plymouth fixture, and Neville's suspension, which does not start until Thursday, keeps him out of the Brentford game. Sheffield Wednesday had Shirtliff suspended for one game for reaching 20 points.

Paul forced to retire

Ian Paul, Walsall's 20-year-old midfield player, has had to give up the game through illness. He has had hospital treatment for stomach trouble and Walsall plan a benefit match for him.

From hero to villain in less than a year

A stunned Ken Knighton disputed Sunderland's decision yesterday to brand him a failure by dismissing him as their manager, along with his assistant, Frank Clark. "Frank Clark and I have been at the club 18 months and during that time we have got them promotion and then kept them in the first division," he said. "My record is there for all to see but I suppose you just have to accept these things in this business."

Mr Knighton and Mr Clark were called into the boardroom after training yesterday and told that, after weeks of speculation, their short Roker Park reign was over. The thinly-disguised private battle between the club's youngest manager and the millionaire chairman, Tom Cowie, is thought to be at the root of Mr Knighton's dismissal.

"The chairman just said that he could not let the present situation continue," Mr Knighton said. "If you want to know what situation he was referring to, you'd better ask him." Mr Cowie was unavailable for comment after sanctioning the appointment of Tommy Docherty's son, Mick, as caretaker-manager for the last four games of the season. Sunderland need a maximum five points to ensure first division survival.

Mr Knighton, who admits this season has been a struggle after the early success of reaching eighth place in the league, added: "It's the first time I have been sacked and it's not a pleasant feeling. I've got a family to feed and look after."

Saturday's 2—0 defeat at Stoke, Sunderland's third on the trot and their twelfth in 13 away games, spelt the end for Mr Knighton.

He knew his position was insecure, whatever results his side achieved on the field, after his row at Christmas with Mr Cowie over free turkeys for the players. Mr Knighton was also angry at having to foot the bill for overnight accommodation for his players out of his own pocket.

Mr Knighton is learning that a year is a long time in football. Less than 12 months ago he was being hailed as a hero in the north east when Sunderland beat West Ham United 2—0 to finish second in the second division.

Today's fixtures

FIRST DIVISION: Aston Villa v Ipswich Town; Liverpool v Manchester United.
SECOND DIVISION: Preston North End v Sheffield Wednesday.
THIRD DIVISION: Burnley v Huddersfield Town; Charlton Athletic v Portsmouth; Hull City v Swindon Town; Plymouth Argyle v Sheffield United.
FOURTH DIVISION: Northampton v Hereford; Port Vale v Bradford; York v Bury.
WELSH CUP: Semi-final round, second leg: Swansea v Wrexham.
SCOTTISH SECOND DIVISION: Brechin v Queen of the South.
IRISH LEAGUE: Bangor v Ballymena (6.30).
ALLIANCE PREMIER LEAGUE: Bangor City v Kettering; Stafford Rangers v A. P. Leamington; Telford United v Gravesend; Wealdstone v Boston United.
SOUTHERN LEAGUE: Midland division: Barry v Alvechurch; Corby v Enderby; Gloucester v Kidderminster. Southern division: Basingstoke v Dover; Bognor Regis v Hounslow; Dorchester v Hastings; Fareham Town v Dartford.
NORTHERN PREMIER LEAGUE: Burton Albion v Witton Albion; Buxton v South Liverpool; Matlock v Netherfield; Runcorn v Tamworth.
ISTHMIAN LEAGUE: Premier division: Boreham Wood v Tooting and Mitcham; Bromley v Harlow; Hendon v Harrow Borough; Hitchin v Slough. First division: Farnborough v Bishop's Stortford; Wembley v Wokingham. Second division: Eastbourne United v Rainham; Epping Town v Willesden.
SURREY SENIOR CUP: Semi-final, replay: Epsom and Ewell v Sutton United.
LONDON SENIOR CUP: Semi-final, replay: Cheshunt v Hayes.
ATHENIAN LEAGUE: Burnham v Hoddesdon (6.15); Chertsey v Alton (6.15); Fleet v Windsor and Eton; Haringey Borough v Leyton Wingate; Redhill v Uxbridge; Welling v Woodford.
RUGBY LEAGUE: First division: Leeds v Wakefield Trinity.
RUGBY UNION: Pontypridd v Glamorgan Wanderers (7.0). Middlesex Agar Cup: Final: Old Hamptonians v Old Gaytonians.

Cricket

Boycott should be fit to resume England's quest for saving grace

From John Woodcock
Cricket Correspondent
Kingston, April 13

For the third time in a row England are spending their Test match rest day wondering how to get away with a draw. At Bridgetown in the third Test they failed to do it; in Antigua in the fourth, they managed it with the help of a day's rain; here in the fifth, in which they will start their second innings tomorrow morning needing 157 to make West Indies bat again, the odds are heavily against them.

Boycott, who took to his bed yesterday after being sick at lunch-time, is expected to be fit to open the innings. Butcher, who was not in the field for the last 300 runs of the West Indian innings, will also bat though under the handicap of a pulled thigh muscle. Botham and Jackman both have a hand strapped up. Of those with nothing the matter with them, only Gooch has any real reason to be confident about making runs. West Indies are playing with such confidence that, given two fine days, it will require England's best batting performance of the series to hold out.

One simple comparison points to the overwhelming advantage which Lloyd enjoys over Botham. On the first day of this fifth Test match he made his first bowling change after 10 overs when England were 31 for no wicket. The bowler he brought on was Croft. When, on the second day, West Indies batted and England changed their bowling after 14 overs, when Greenidge and Haynes had made 38 together, it was Gooch who came on.

That Croft's first four overs cost 33 runs and Gooch's only three were maidens is neither here nor there except that it would probably never happen again. The fact is that, with his present attack against England's batting, Lloyd has simply to turn the switches and wait for results. He is in the position of all successful captains of having the bowlers for the job. His ingenuity is seldom called upon.

This is not to say that I wish England, too, fielded four fast bowlers, even of the calibre of Holding, Garner, Croft and Marshall. Heaven forbid that they ever should, at any rate as a regular policy. What they need, all the same, and need badly, are two or three more with the same promise as Dilley. Not surprisingly, in view of this, Middlesex's signing of Jeff Thomson has been greeted out here with some scorn.

No one needs a good England side more than the counties, being, as they are, heavily dependent upon revenue from test matches; no one, you may be sure, grumbles more at England's present failings than the committees of Sussex and Middlesex. Yet what do they do? Sussex opened their attack with a South African and a Pakistani, and Middlesex with a South African and a West Indian in 1980 and a West Indian and an Australian in 1981. In 1982 all being well, they will not be allowed to.

The point is that there are counties—and Sussex and Middlesex are not the only two—prepared, day in and day out, to open their bowling at both ends with players ineligible for England rather than give at least one Englishman every encouragement to make the grade.

At Taunton last season I watched Bill Merry, who is 25, take several wickets for Middlesex against Somerset and look in the process as though he had something to work on. For most of the season he was kept out of the Middlesex side by Daniel and van der Bijl. In Simon Hughes, Middlesex also have a real fast bowling prospect. How must they have felt when they heard the news about Thomson? The same as the selectors, I imagine—bored by such self-indulgence.

ENGLAND: First innings 265 (G. A. Gooch 153; M. A. Holding 5 for 56).

WEST INDIES: First innings

C. G. Greenidge, c Botham, b Dilley	62
D. L. Haynes, b Willey	84
I. V. A. Richards, c Downton, b Dilley	15
E. H. Mattis, c sub, b Dilley	34
C. H. Lloyd, c Downton, b Jackman	95
H. A. Gomes, not out	90
D. A. Murray, c Gooch, b Emburey	14
M. D. Marshall, b Emburey	15
J. Garner, c sub, b Dilley	19
M. A. Holding, c Downton, b Botham	0
C. E. H. Croft, c sub, b Botham	0
Extras (l-b 8, w 1, n-b 5)	14
Total	442

FALL OF WICKETS: 1—116, 2—136, 3—179, 4—227, 5—345, 6—372, 7—415, 8—441, 9—442, 10—442.

BOWLING: Dilley, 29.4—6—116—4; Botham, 26.1—9—73—2; Jackman, 26.2—6—57—1; Gooch, 8—3—20—0; Emburey, 56—23—108—2; Willey, 18—3—54—1.

Umpires: C. Cumberbatch and D. Sang Hue.

Players vote for rest days

The proposal by Geoff Boycott that there should always be a rest day in Test matches after the 1981 season was approved by the annual meeting of the Cricketers' Association in Birmingham yesterday. They also agreed that in the experiment with Sunday play continues, Test match should start on Friday with the rest day on Monday.

Boycott's suggestions, which were seconded by Ian Botham, the England captain, and David Gower and had the backing of all the England touring party, will now be submitted to the Test and County Cricket Board. There is to be no rest day in the Test matches this summer at Trent Bridge, Edgbaston and Old Trafford which have Sunday play.

The players also supported a two-part resolution aimed at tightening up the qualifications to play for England and the registrations of overseas players by the counties.

Phil Carrick, of Yorkshire, proposed: "Any individual born or resident overseas wishing to be registered for the purposes of county cricket as English and not an overseas player, must: (A) make a written declaration, prior to registration being granted, that he will not, during his playing career, seek to play international cricket for any country except England. (B) at the time of applying for registration he shall hold a British passport and travel under that British passport."

The second proposal, also by Carrick, was that "any overseas player registered with an English county must, before registration is granted, have a contract of employment with that county for a minimum of two seasons."

Radio contract dispute: The Test and County Cricket Board are confident that radio coverage of important matches will continue next season despite an argument over money. The BBC are still refusing to meet the board's demand for £195,000 for a new three-year contract, but the gap between the sides is said by Peter Lush, the TCCB marketing manager, to be only £8,000 a year. If agreement for the full package—which includes the 1981 Australian tour and 1983 World Cup—could not be reached, the board would consider a contract involving reduced coverage.

Four-team event to be held by Aberdeen

Aberdeen have unveiled plans to stage a new £200,000 pre-season tournament at Pittodrie Stadium. The ambitious Scottish premier division club will be joined by Manchester United, Southampton and West Ham United in a four-team competition on August 1 and 2.

About £30,000 in prize money will be at stake with the winners receiving £15,000, the runners-up £10,000 and the third placed team £5,000. The draw for the competition made in Aberdeen yesterday, with Southampton's Keegan and Parkes of West Ham United both present, paired Aberdeen with West Ham United and Manchester United with Southampton.

The games will be played on a "double header" basis on August 1 with the third place playoff and final the following afternoon. After yesterday's press conference Aberdeen's manager, Alex Ferguson, said: "The days of the pre-season friendly are past. The supporters want something of real interest as well at attractive football and we hope to supply it with this."

Rummenigge lifts Bayern

Bayern Munich, looking for a place in the European Cup final after holding Liverpool to a 0—0 draw, sharpened their bid for the West German League title at the weekend. Their closest rivals, Hamburg, lost 2—1 away to lowly Schalke while Bayern hammered MSV Duisburg 5—1.

Both Bayern and Hamburg have 41 points and are seven points clear of Eintracht Frankfurt in third place, but Bayern have the better goal difference. Four of Bayern's goals came from Rummenigge while the hero in the Schalke-Hamburg match was the Schalke goalkeeper, Fischer.

AZ'67 Alkmaar, hoping to play in the final of the Uefa Cup, lost their first league match of the season. Alkmaar, runaway leaders in the race for the Dutch first division title, were beaten 0—1 at home by Ajax Amsterdam. The Ajax goal came in the 81st minute from their Danish player, Arnesen.

Kurt Linder, of West Germany, is to take over as the Ajax trainer from July 1 on a one-year contract. Linder has asked Ajax to extend the contract of Henning Jensen but the other two Danes, Arnesen and Lerby, have both asked to be released.

Five clubs are still in the hunt for the Spanish title. With Atletico Madrid being held to a 1—1 draw in their top-of-the-table clash against Valencia, Real Sociedad (who beat Murcia 0—2) move one point clear of their rivals. They now have 42 points while Real Madrid, 2—0 winners over Saragossa, are level with Atletico Madrid on 41 points. Barcelona, after a 2—5 away win against Almeria, join Valencia on 40 points.

Juventus, Roma and Napoli share first place in the Italian first division, the most exciting championship finish for years. While Roma, unbeaten for 17 games, dropped a point at home, their two rivals scored impressive away wins to move up to 35 points with five matches to play. The Eire international Brady, scored his eighth goal of the season as Juventus stole most of the day's glory by beating struggling Pistoiese 3—1.

Italy's coach, Enzo Bearzot, has included three newcomers among 14 players selected for the exhibition game against East Germany at Udine, on April 19, the Fiorentina goalkeeper, Galli, Dossena (Bologna) and Marangon (Napoli).

PARTY: D. Zoff (Juventus), G. Galli (Fiorentina), A. Cabrini, G. Gentile (both Juventus), P. Vierchowod (Como), L. Marangon (Napoli), F. Baresi (Internazionale), G. Antognoni (Fiorentina), G. Scirea (Juventus), G. Dossena (Bologna), C. Ancelotti (Roma), S. Bagni (Perugia), F. Graziani (Torino), R. Bettega (Juventus).

Irish may have to cross a picket line to play

Northern Ireland internationals could have to cross a picket line of fellow professionals when they play their world cup qualifying game against Portugal at Windsor Park on April 29.

The Province's part-timers are threatening "industrial action" in their quest for better financial conditions and the freedom of contract enjoyed by their English-based colleagues. They may call a strike on Saturday's league championship decider between Glentoran and Linfield.

The Irish Professional Footballers' Association also plan to take their battle against the £10 maximum wage to the Ulster High Court. Their secretary Peter Dornan, a Belfast solicitor said: "The governing officials have given us a blunt 'no' on every issue and there seems that there is no room for compromise."

But the Irish FA president Harry Cavan, said: "Some of the things they want are just not on. They are modelling their demands on the Football League in England, but there can be no comparison when many of our dozen league clubs are only taking about £300 a week in gate receipts."

Tennis

Old soldiers begin a careful advance

By Rex Bellamy
Tennis Correspondent

The council of the Lawn Tennis Association, the equivalent of an ageing, battle-weary army, decided yesterday that their total force should remain intact at 116 but that the age limit should progressively be lowered from 75 to 70 by careful demobilization over a period of five years; that as many of the troops as possible should in future be mustered for three drill parades a year instead of five (reducing the annual cost of such parades to less than £3,000); and that a squad of picked men should be delegated for active

That exaggerated metaphor was suggested by the LTA decision to reduce the number of council meetings nd transfer the management of British tennis to a newly-constituted 12-man board who will meet at least once a month. Much more radical—and let us give them credit for it—was a decision to reduce the number of standing committees from 12 to five and constituent members from eight or nine to six.

The board, four stronger than it needs to be, will go out on manoeuvres immediately but will have no genuine power until the entire scheme of reorganization is approved by the LTA annual meeting in December.

All this arises from a Government-appointed committee of inquiry who took 21 months to reach and publish their findings into the state of British tennis. The same conclusions could have been reached in 24 hours.

Jim Cochrane, chairman of the council, said yesterday: "We have not agreed with everything the report said but it gave us the opportunity to look at ourselves. But for the report, I do not believe we would have done that. I hope that this restructuring, and starting the board, will be a step forward rather than sideways or backwards." It was, he agreed, just the first step. He estimated that the necessary reorganisation would take five years.

Mr Cochrane has been nominated at the first "working president" of the LTA. This is a question of semantics. The LTA propose to discard the practice of having a figurehead with the title of president, as well as a chairman. One man is to do both jobs. The title of president is to be retained.

The LTA deserve a marke of seven out of 10, an encouraging pat on the back, and a recommendation to consider even more drastic changes. It may arouse some cynicism that the maximum age of the people ultimately responsible for a strenuous sport is to be reduced, gradually, to 70. But no-one can be first nominated for the council at an age exceeding 55 and any president appointed must be under 65. The old soldiers are moving in the right direction.

MONTE CARLO: Open tournament, first round: B. Taroczy (Hungary) beat K. Johansson (Sweden) 6—1, 6—0; G. Ocleppo (Italy) beat M. Orantes (Spain) 6—4, 6—3; G. Urpi (Spain) beat A. Gimenez (Spain) 6—2, 1—6, 6—2; T. Smid (Czechoslovakia) beat T. Tulasne (France) 3—6, 7—6, 6—4; J. Higueras (Spain) beat J. L. Clerc (Argentina) 7—6, 6—1; C. Mottram (GB) beat H. Gunthardt (Switzerland) 6—2, 6—0.

Squash rackets

Sponsors ask the family for support

By Rex Bellamy
Squash Rackets Correspondent

British squash becomes ever more firmly established as the rival of tennis rather than its ally. Debenhams have not renewed sponsorship of the annual tennis tournament at the Cumberland Club, Hampstead.

Conversely they announced yesterday—coincidentally, the first day of the Hampstead event—that they are to support a new series of British squash championships for family pairs. To enhance the entertainment value of the later rounds, these will be embellished by a professional series in which 10 men will compete for a prize fund of about £8,000.

The squash calendar is already so congested with such a diversity of events, that it is difficult to devise distinctive new competitions and find celebrities with the time to play in them. The Debenhams event is unusual because it stresses the possibilities of squash as a family game—a role more often associated with tennis and badminton.

The application of this stimulating concept invites criticism in that, at least in its first season, 25 per cent of British players—women—will play a subsidiary part. The professional competition is merely for men and, at the expense of mothers, the family event is restricted to four classes instead of the logical six.

The event will be contested from September to March. The family championships, in which the early rounds will be played at competitors' clubs, will have four classes: for father and son, father and daughter, husband and wife, and brother and sister. Like will will play singles against like—for example, father against father, and son against son.

Should competing pairs win a match each and also finish level in terms of games, the pair with the biggest combined total of points will be the winners. Imperfect though the scheme may be, it represents an exciting competitive challenge.

Successful pairs will progress to regional, area, and national finals. At the regional level, they will be joined in January by the 10 professionals, who will compete on an all-play-all basis, in two groups of five, at 20 locations from Stirling to Plymouth. The two leading players in each group will then move on to semi-final and final rounds. The professionals will be Awad, Aziz, Safwat (Egypt), Briars, Kenyon (Britain), Williams, Bowditch, Brumby (Australia), and Brownlee and Norman, New Zealand).

WOKING: World Cup tournament: third-place play-off. M. Ahmed (Pakistan) and Mrs R. Thorne (Australia) beat J. Barrington (Ireland) and Miss S. Cogswell (GB) 2—0. Ahmed beat Barrington 9—2, 9—1, 9—7. Thorne beat Cogswell 9—7, 9—6, 9—5.

HULL: British Professional Championship: final, G. Briars beat G. Brumby (Australia), 9—7, 10—9, 9—2.

Basketball

Strong England glimpse a place in finals

By Nicholas Harling

The ease with which England swept through the qualifying round of the European championships in Jersey has persuaded them that they may, after all, have a chance of reaching the finals for the first time.

To qualify for the finals, which are to be held in Czechoslovakia in June, England must finish among the top four teams in next month's last qualifying round in Turkey, where the opposition in their group will come from the hosts, Belgium, Finland, Hungary and Greece. Although England have fared badly against all five countries in past meetings their coach, Vic Ambler, takes comfort from the fact that no other English coach has ever had such a strong squad.

Certainly there was no evidence at St Helier, where the tournament was sponsored by Modern Hotels, to suggest that England's ability, potential and confidence is in anything but a healthy state. The last victory, over Austria, was the most surprising, not so much for the result but for the manner of its achievement.

It had been widely expected that England and Austria would arrive at Sunday's game knowing that whichever team succeeded would be the one to advance. As both nations had won their previous three games that was the position but few can have expected England to qualify with such conviction.

Only during one anxious period when they allowed the Austrians to wipe out eight points of a 10-point deficit were England seriously threatened. Then the calming influence of their captain, Dan Lloyd, helped them back into a position of such dominance that they eventually won comfortably 71-57.

Much of Ambler's satisfaction stemmed from the fact that so many players contributed to the success, a different one emerging in each of the four games to lead the scoring. On Sunday it was the turn of the Sunderland player, McCauley, with 20 points, followed closely by Dan Lloyd. In previous games David Lloyd, Day and Tatham proved themselves the best marksmen.

The players will have a fortnight off before reassembling on April 27.

Yesterday's results

ALLIANCE PREMIER LEAGUE: Worcester 0, Yeovil 1.
SOUTHERN LEAGUE: Midland division: Banbury 0, Trowbridge 0; Bedford 1, Redworth 0; Milton Keynes 1, Cambridge City 1. Southern division: Chelmsford 1, Addlestone and Weybridge 0; Tonbridge 2, Aylesbury 0.
NORTHERN PREMIER LEAGUE: Marine 2, Gainsborough 0.
ISTHMIAN LEAGUE: Premier division: Croydon 1, Leytonstone and Ilford 3. First division: Tilbury 1, Aveley 3.
ATHENIAN LEAGUE: Edgware 1, Basildon 0.
RUGBY UNION: Neath 12, Maesteg 14; Newbridge 17, Newport 8.

Golf

Young pretender has time on his side

From John Hennessy
Golf Correspondent
Augusta, April 13

The result of the Masters tournament last evening adds piquancy to the United States Open championship to be played at Merion, Philadelphia, in June.

Tom Watson, winner here for the second time, said last night: "I badly want that one." Jack Nicklaus, second here at the side of Johnny Miller two strokes behind Watson's 280, is the United States holder and, although the question was not put to him, would surely have answered: "I badly want to keep that one." He is a proud man. What he did say at the presentation ceremony was: "This is getting to become too much of a habit, young Watson. I'll be after you."

Nicklaus, at 41, is 10 years the older. Four years ago, both here and at the British Open at Turnberry, he was mastered by Watson. The experience is beginning to hurt, especially as the two players seem to have respect for each other rather than affection.

It has something of the ring of Palmer v Nicklaus at a time of Nicklaus's growing ascendency over a popular favourite. With Palmer a faded character and Nicklaus beginning to command popular appeal, it is Watson's turn to assume the role of unwelcome intruder. Watson was asked yesterday if he felt the gallery were colder to him than they ought to be. "You fellows can answer that better", he said. To an outsider looking in, it is something of a mystery.

I would have thought that Watson had all the attributes of a popular hero here. He is a winner, which every American loves; he is clean cut, charming and well behaved; and he has guts—a compatriot, I would think, to be proud of. If he lacks Trevino's extrovert personality, who does not? If he lacks Nicklaus's imposing record of achievements, again who does not? But time is on his side. The people may yet come to love him and, in turn, resent the appearance of a new young pretender to his throne.

We have now reached a suitable compromise that will have to suffice until somebody achieves the grand slam of all four "majors". Watson holds the British Open and the Masters, Nicklaus the US Open and PGA championship. Golf devotees in Britain would certainly lean towards Watson's titles and he now, predictably, was asked about going on to the grand slam of all four. "I think somebody will do it, but it's a billion to one chance," he replied.

Sandy Lyle, with a fine round of 73 after a weak start, finished joint 28th and therefore missed automatic qualification next year by only four places. Two strokes made all the difference.

A winning margin of two strokes among the leaders suggests a tame finish. It did not seem it at the time; with Nicklaus running into birdie form with a four at the 15th and a two at the 16th and Watson in the bunker at the 17th, which had extorted two strokes from him the day before. Anything was possible.

In the end Nicklaus, playing ahead, could not get near enough for a three at the last and Watson, his nerves rock steady, played a superb bunker shot and then read and stroked the putt with inevitable precision. Once he had driven well on the last tee it would have been too out of character for a man of his sterling qualities to take five, let alone six. And so it was.

Judgment needs to be reserved on the new greens of bent grass. Some were bare in patches and may not reach their proper condition for another two years. They will probably be as fast as lightning by then, and Nicklaus and Ray Floyd may well feel satisfied that their record for the course of 271 will never be surpassed.

FINAL SCORES.—280: T. Watson, 71, 68, 70, 71. 282: J. Nicklaus, 70, 65, 75, 72; J. Miller, 69, 72, 73, 68. 283: G. Norman (Australia), 69, 70, 72, 72. 284: J. Pate 71, 72, 71, 70; T. Kite, 74, 72, 70, 68. 285: D. Graham (Australia), 70, 70, 74, 71. 286: J. Mahaffey, 72, 71, 69, 74; B. Crenshaw, 71, 72, 70, 73; R. Floyd, 75, 71, 71, 69. 287: P. Jacobsen, 71, 70, 72, 74; B. Lietzke, 72, 67, 73, 75; H. Green, 70, 70, 74, 73; G. Archer, 74, 70, 72, 71. 288: G. Player, 73, 73, 71, 71; G. Brewer, 75, 68, 71, 74; J. Simons, 70, 75, 71, 72; R. Gilder, 72, 75, 69, 72.
289: C. Strange, 69, 79, 70, 71; D. Pooley, 71, 75, 72, 71. 290: L. Wadkins, 72, 71, 71, 76; J. Cook, 70, 71, 72, 77; G. Morgan, 74, 73, 70, 73; C. Peete, 73, 70, 71, 74. 291: J. Colbert, 73, 68, 74, 76; W. Levi, 72, 71, 73, 75; H. Irwin, 73, 74, 70, 74. 292: A. Lyle (GB), 73, 70, 76, 73; G. Gilbert, 71, 71, 76, 74; L. Hinkle, 69, 70, 74, 79. 293: D. Stockton, 72, 72, 70, 79; J. Renner, 73, 72, 73, 75; B. Devlin (Australia), 74, 72, 72, 75; J. Haas, 75, 71, 72, 75. 294: M. Sullivan, 72, 74, 74, 74; *J. Sigel, 72, 75, 75, 2.
295: K. Fergus, 76, 72, 75, 72; S. Hoch, 73, 70, 75, 77; W. Rogers, 76, 72, 75, 72. 296: *R. Lewis, 77, 70, 73, 76; H. Twitty, 75, 72, 74, 75; C. Coody, 74, 71, 75, 76. 297: F. Zoeller, 77, 80, 78, 72; C. Stadler, 76, 71, 73, 77. 300: N. Suzuki (Japan), 74, 74, 25, 77; I. Aoki (Japan), 70, 76, 77, 77. 301: *J. Holtgrieve, 70, 77, 79, 75. 305: T. Aaron, 77, 71, 76, 79.
*Denotes amateur.

Boxing

O'Grady ruthless in victory

Atlantic City, April 13.—Sean O'Grady, a 22-year-old "veteran" of 77 professional bouts, knocked down Hilmar Kenty twice and pounded his face into a bloody mess to win the World Boxing Association lightweight championship by a unanimous 15-round here last night. The baby-faced O'Grady stood in his corner before the start of the fight blowing bubbles with green bubble gum. However, from the opening he was anything but playful.

The contest was action-packed from the start with Kenty fighting doggedly in every round and scoring with enough punches to win many contests. However, O'Grady landed even more, hit harder and also scored well to the body.

O'Grady won the title a little more than five months after he failed to win the WBC crown from Jim Watt in Scotland. O'Grady suffered an 11-stitch cut on the forehead from a clash of heads in the 10th round of that bout, which was stopped in the 12th.

For a moment in the fifth round, it looked like the same fate might be in store for the man from Oklahoma City. Later in that round, O'Grady came off the ropes and there was a collision of heads that ripped open a cut at the corner of his left eye. But his corner men kept the cut in control throughout the contest.

Although Kenty had to crawl of the floor twice and was in trouble numerous times, he came close to winning in the 11th round. In that round, the 25-year-old champion from Detroit caught O'Grady flush on the jaw with a right hand. O'Grady dropped his hands to his side, wavered, then pattered backwards into the corner.

Sibson date altered: Tony Sibson's defence of the European middleweight boxing title has been put bac ka day to Thursday, May 14. The content, against Andoni Amana, in Bilbao, has been switched from May 13 because Spanish Television will be showing the European Cup Winners' Cup final that night. The bout was originally scheduled for May 1.

Rugby Union

Hall among nine new Barbarians

Nine uncapped players have been invited to join the Barbarians on their annual Easter tour to South Wales over the weekend, among them the Leicester centre, Brian Hall, who was injured in his club's John Player Cup semi-final win over London Scottish. He is one of nine new Barbarians.

His club colleague, Cusworth, is likely to return from the tour on Easter Monday so that he can play in Leicester's home game with Pontypool.

BARBARIANS PARTY: G. Evans (Maesteg), W. M. H. Rose (Cambridge University), J. Carleton (Orrell), S. Munro (Ayr), A. Swift (Swansea), D. M. Trick (Bath), B. Hall (Leicester), D. I. Johnston (Watsonians), N. J. Preston (Richmond), D. S. Richards (Swansea), K. W. Robertson (Melrose), L. Cusworth (Leicester), G. H. Davies (Cambridge University), J. Y. Rutherford (Selkirk), R. J. Laidlaw (Jedforest), I. G. Peck (Rosslyn Park), G. S. Pearce (Northampton), N. A. Rowan (Boroughmuir), G. A. F. Sargent (Gloucester), C. Smart (Newport), J. A. G. D. Raphael (Northampton), A. Simpson (Sale), S. Bainbridge (Gosforth), W. Cuthbertson (Kilmarnock), C. E. Davis (Newbridge), R. J. Field (Moseley), T. J. Smith (Gala), R. C. Burgess (Ebbw Vale), N. J. Carr (Queen's University, Belfast), N. C. Jeavons (Moseley), N. C. Pomphrey (Bristol), A. G. Ripley (Rosslyn Park).

Motor racing

Brabham brings Piquet home to face the storm

Buenos Aires, April 13.—Nelson Piquet's overwhelming win in yesterday's Argentine Grand Prix has brought a flood of protests from formula one car constructors. The 28-year-old Brazilian's victory has renewed his rivals' indignation about his Brabham T.49 with its controversial hydraulic suspension.

Trouble also continues to follow Colin Chapman, the head of Lotus, whose controversial new car raced under appeal, coming sixth after being banned from the third Grand Prix in a row on the grounds that its twin-chassis does not conform to Grand Prix rules. Chapman left Buenos Aires in a rage after being fined $100,000 for remarks which the International Motorsport Federation president, Jean-Marie Balestre said discredited the world championship.

The fine follows Chapman's outburst against what he called pressure groups which were trying to stop him racing. Among others, Chapman had criticized the Brabhams of Piquet and his Mexican co-driver Hector Rebaque. The other participating teams signed a protest against the fine.

FISA's appeal tribunal is to make a decision about the Lotus on April 23. The Brabham controversy could take longer to clear up, because although it conforms to new regulations, it has a hydraulic suspension system which allows it to shave the ground in movement.

The FISA executive, which will have to consider the protests of Williams and Renault against the car on Friday, says it is powerless to check whether the car conforms to the six-centimetre clearance rule when it is in motion. "Our engineers are working on an electronic device which will allow us to check vehicles while they are running, but pending that we can only say that the Brabham does conform to the rules," said Mr Balestre.

Renault, who yesterday picked up their first grand prix points this season, placing cars third and fifth, added to the atmosphere of discontent by claiming that the race winner was the second-placed Carlos Reutemann of the Williams team because he was the first home of the "legitimate cars".

Brabham's triumph could have been even more spectacular had Rebaque's car not developed a short-circuit which cut his power when he was lying second. Rebaque admitted he was astonished how well his Brabham held the track, enabling him to reach an average speed of near 125 miles an hour. This superiority proves, the car's detractors claim, that the Brabham is using illegal means to achieve a ground effect.

The race was a procession with Piquet leading almost from the start. He finished 47 seconds ahead of the local hero Carlos Reutemann, who now has a three point lead over his team colleague Alan Jones in the world championship standings.

Equestrianism

Badminton restores faith after the unacceptable

By Pamela Macgregor-Morris

The unacceptable face of horse trials, the injuries to horses, was mercifully conspicuous for its absence from Badminton last weekend. The happy atmosphere which prevailed at Burghley last year after the disasters of the alternative Olympics in France was once again in evidence, for the ultimate good of the sport.

The course was ridden with foresight, and though there were 24 falls in all the new Crooked S fence, where the grief could have accumulated, was rendered innocuous by the almost universal decision to take the long, comparatively safe way round.

The Coffin was omitted this year and the Quarry, whose history is almost as long, was the most influential fence, accounting among others for Captain Mark Phillips's first ride, the veteran Persian Holiday for the defending champion, Mark Todd of New Zealand with Jocasta, and for Lester Piggott's daughter Maureen with Barney II, sponsored by Cathay Pacific Airlines for a year. There were four immersions at the Lake, which must have gratified the huge crowds who always gather here. Though three horses were eliminated, none was hurt.

The memory of last year's Badminton has left a sour taste in several mouths and caused a number of young horses to be left at home. Fred Winter's twin daughter Joanna, formerly a pillar of the British junior team, told me afterwards: "I have two super young horses and I'd really like to take them abroad, but if they have to prove themselves at Badminton first—no way!" Jane Holderness-Roddam also said that she had no wish to ride at Badminton again, but after this year's event she agreed that, if she had had a good horse, she would have enjoyed the ride.

Cross country courses first attracted criticism for their severity at the Rome Olympics, 11 years ago. The world championships at Punchestown in 1970, where fence 28 combined a spread with a drop, and the second fence at the European championships at Kiev in 1973, a big square oxer over a ditch which claimed among its victims Princess Anne, continued the rot. The world championships at Lexington in 1978 with the snake fence and humidity continued the unhappy tradition, and even the 1979 European championships at Luhmuhlen leaned in the same direction.

Happily for the future of the sport, the pendulum seems to have swung back. Riders maintain that Badminton is always tougher than the Olympic Games, and it was still tough this year, but it was fair to the horses, the essential qualification.

Duke for Royal Windsor

The Duke of Edinburgh and his two-team colleagues, George Bowman and Alwyn Holder, who won the gold medal in last year's World Carriage Driving championships, will be competing again at the Royal Windsor Horse Show next month. The driving grand prix takes place from May 15 to 17—the final three days of the five-day show.

The Duke of Edinburgh and other British teams will be competing against drivers from the Netherlands, Spain, Belgium and Czechoslovakia. The competition is one of the varied events at the Royal Windsor Show which has attracted show jumpers from all over the world to compete against such leading British riders as David Broome, Harvey Smith, Caroline Bradley and Liz Edgar.

There is another big international entry of more than 200 riders at the show, sponsored by Kerrygold, at Hickstead this weekend. They include the Frenchman, Gilles Bertram de Balanda, who is currently leading the European qualifiers for next week's Volvo World Cup in Birmingham. Nine overseas nations will be represented at Hickstead.

Indonesia to host

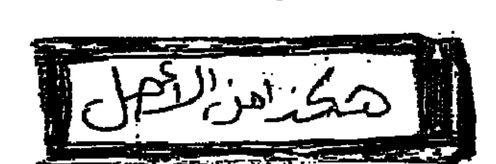
Indonesia will host an international badminton championship with $57,600 in prize money next November, the chairman of the Indonesian Badminton Federation said yesterday. Leading players will be invited to the event on November 17-21 if the International Badminton Federation and its rival, the World Badminton Federation, complete their planned merger next month.—Reuter.

Tickets in demand

All reserved seats in the main stand have been sold for the Prudential Trophy match between England and Australia at Headingley on June 8, the receipts being more than £15,500. For the third Test match, starting on July 16, £43,[illegible] has already been taken.

Marlow western-bound

Months of fund raising by Marlow Rugby Club reach fruition tomorrow when 46 players and officials leave for a 10-day tour of Texas. Marlow will play their hosts, Fort Worth, Austin, Dallas Harlequins and a combined Dallas-Fort Worth XV.



Racing

To-Agori-Mou is money in the bank

By Michael Phillips
Racing Correspondent

The Tote Jackpot is certain to arouse a considerable amount of interest at Newmarket today on this the first day of the Craven meeting because the pool already amounts to £64,296. This has been carried on from Newbury last Saturday when the results again succeeded in baffling all the aspiring clairvoyants.

So far this current pool has survived three days at Doncaster, another three at Liverpool, one at Ascot and two at Newbury with the result that this is the largest amount carried forward since 1976. For those who may have forgotten what the Jackpot is all about it entails trying to forecast all the six winners and the bet has to be struck before the first race begins.

So, the intrepid are denied the opportunity to monitor the betting leading up to five of the six races on the programme. This does not make life any easier especially when one of the races involved is like the Stuntney Maiden Stakes in which most of the runners have never run.

No one will get any marks for guessing which horse will be must people's banker today. It must surely be To-Agori-Mou to win the Craven Stakes, which has been sponsored again by Ladbroke Leisure Ltd. If the Free Handicap means anything at all To-Agori-Mou has this prize at his mercy. And, having seen him looking so outstandingly well at Pulborough not long ago, I have no intention of looking elsewhere.

In the official assessment To-Agori-Mou was placed 21lb above both Baz Bombati and Sunley Builds and even further ahead of another of today's runners, Scintillating Air. How then can they beat him at level weights? The answer must be that they cannot, unless To-Agori-Mou has deteriorated, which I doubt, knowing how well he has been going in his gallops recently, or unless he has an off day or if the others have improved out of all recognition during the winter. I can offer no evidence to suggest they have.

Dalby Mustang and Tahoe, who were two of the best two-year-olds in Scandinavia last season, have not been frightened away by To-Agori-Mou's reputation. However, they have both been beaten already this season by my selection's stable companion, Recitation, in the 2,000 Guineas Trial at Salisbury and it is hard to envisage them doing better against the stable's first string.

Our Newmarket correspondent thinks that Mushref will run well having seen him go nicely in a gallop on Saturday with Centurius, Ghadeer and Rhus. However, I think that it is fair to say that if he managed to beat To-Agori-Mou it would be an enormous surprise.

The winner of the Stetchworth Maiden Stakes could come from a short-list comprising Hillsdown Lad, Hit Record and Music City. The fact that Hillsdown Lad has had a race already this season could be the deciding factor. It could easily give him the edge on fitness.

If Bold Fort is beaten in the Stuntney Maiden Stakes it might be by either Kamal or Ghenting. Neither have run. Kamal is the big local tip, but in this instance I just prefer Ghenting, who will be ridden by Lester Piggott for his brother-in-law, Robert Armstrong.

Swift points Swan Princess at the top

Brian Swift, the Epsom Trainer, has high hopes that Swan Princess will be a contender for classic or sprint honours this summer. In the Privy Councillor Stakes at Folkestone yesterday she produced the sort of reappearance expected of a championship aspirant.

The filly appeared to stay the six furlongs trip with ease, prompting her trainer to say: "I'm tempted to run her in the Guineas, but six furlongs at Folkestone is a far cry from a mile across the heath."

Swan Princess made her customary lightning break from the stalls, and blazed the trail at a fast pace ahead of Chummy's Special, with the odds-on favourite, Welham Green, close on their heels. Taffy Thomas kept her going for a comfortable length and a half success.

Swan Princess is owned jointly by Michael Bland and David Hains, from Melbourne, who bred the celebrated Australian champion Kingston Town, winner of the Sydney Cup and that country's top all-aged race, the Mackinnon Stakes.

Lester Piggott's first visit to Wolverhampton for 10 seasons brought him a 246—1 treble on BA Poundstretcher, Prince Santo and Canaille. Piggott's 1981 total is now eight, one behind Greville Starkey. Piggott's victory on newcomer BA Poundstretcher in the Ryton Maiden Stakes made it a day that will not be forgotten for the owners, a syndicate of seven British Airways stewards and one stewardess. he 2,500 guineas fillly was their very first runner.

They had their anxious moments, however. To begin with, Piggott had to mount the 14—1 shot in the stalls. Then, when he came to challenge the favourite, Chellaston Park, at the distance, BA Poundstretcher drifted right across the path of Alpha Omega,

Table tennis

Mrs Hammersley primed and ready for assault on the Asians

By A Special Correspondent

Chu Van Que bought a boat for £2,000, sold places in it for a modest fee, and sailed for a month from Hanoi to Hongkong. A son was born on the voyage; his escape continued until early last year to Newcastle-upon-Tyne, where, finally, his boat came in. Last week, the former North Vietnamese national coach was adding to his new life by helping the England squad in its final training camp for the world championships in Novi Sad, Yugoslavia, starting today.

Though one of the sport's most outlandish stories, it is still no gimmick. English table tennis is as strong at international level as it has ever been, but still has small chance of challenging Asian dominance, and Chinese players in particular. If the Chinese have the will to do so, they are still the most likely country to produce world champions, in both individual and team events, both men and women.

Chu was born in China, moved to Vietnam when he was a teenager and plays with a penholder grip. He knows the Chinese style of attack inside out and, at 35, still employs it well enough to give Jill Hammersley, England's number one, a very hard time in training. Mrs Hammersley, number eight in the world but seeded fifth equal, is the only English player, and the only European woman, with a chance of making inroads upon the Asians.

"Chu showed himself very good at quick hitting and then suddenly producing the unexpected drop shot", the England captain, Peter Simpson, said. This is the method that has often rendered Mrs Hammersley's classic Western style of chop-and-float defence vulnerable in the past. Now, for the first time, she has had extended practice against it. "I still find it difficult to play against, but I shall do my best", she said. It will be interesting to see whether she is permitted to produce it.

England's other number one, Desmond Douglas, who recently led Dusseldorf to their fourth successive Bundesliga title, has also shown vulnerability to the Chinese in the past. He is also troubled by a knee injury that he has been quietly carrying for some time. John Hilton, the England number two and European champion, has had to care for his wife and recently-born first child, which has limited his appearances at the camp.

Before any of England's three best-known players have the chance to show whether they can overcome their problems by progressing individually, they have to help England improve upon their disappointing team performances.



Douglas : troubled by a niggling knee injury.

In the last world championships, two years ago in Pyongyang, North Korea, the men finished tenth and the women as low as twelfth. The team events continue until April 20 with one rest day before the individual events, which finish on April 26.

England's men, with the former *national champion*, Paul Day, likely to gain the third spot, are capable of climbing several places up the table. So, too, are the women now that the selectors have not made the mistake of failing to provide a recognized doubles pair for matches containing four singles and one double. Linda Jarvis is back in harness with Mrs Hammersley, with the second singles place open to contention.

Despite Hungary's brilliant win in the men's final in Pyongyang, the Chinese will again start as favourites to win both team events. But now that the South Koreans, free of political discrimination, are able to compete once more, their women especially will be in with an excellent chance of making their mark on their return.

One of the classics in the point-to-point calendar is threatened by a sale

The Heythrop Hunt go in search of a host

Fox Farm, near Stow-on-the-Wold, the home of the Heythrop Hunt point-to-point for the past 29 years, is for disposal. It was in *1938 that Bing Lowe took on* the tenancy of the farm from the Arkell family, and in 1953 that the Heythrop moved their point-to-point to this spectacular undulating course on the roof of the Cotswolds.

Mr Lowe is to retire from farming this summer, and at the point-to-point last Tuesday Valerie Willes, senior joint master of the Hunt, presented him with an engraved glass decanter to mark the occasion.

With its superb setting, the Heythrop has become one of the point-to-pointing public's most popular meetings. The four-mile open race for the Lord Ashton of Hyde's Cup attracts horses from hunts all over the country, and is known as one of the season's "classics".

Seventeen horses went to the post for the first running of the Heythrop four-miler in 1953. In a tight finish, the race was won by Len Caville's Dark Stranger in the hands of Ivor Kerwood. Dark Stranger went on to win the Liverpool Foxhunters', then also run over four miles. On that occasion Dark Stranger was ridden by John Bosley, whose 17-year-old son, Martin, rode Flexability into third place behind *Grittar and* Sydney Quin in this year's Foxhunters'.

This provides a good illustration of the continuity of hunt racing, especially as Sydney Quin was ridden by Paul Webber, whose father, John, was a well-known point-to-point rider before he began training; and Caroline Saunders, daughter of Grittar's rider, Dick Saunders, has also won several hunter-chases and point-to-points. Subsequent winners of the Heythrop marathon include Jackie Brutton's famous pair, Snowdra Queen and Lord Fortune, who won it three times, and Pat Morris's Sparkford.

here was an exciting finish to the race this year, when Nostra damus, owned by John Sumner, a steward ofthe Jockey Club, and ridden by his son-in-law, Ian McKie, won by a head fro Richard Shepherd's fast-finishing Long Lane. Long Lane won the Foxhunters' at Cheltenham in 1977, when it was run over four miles for the last time.

The ladies' open race for the Lyon Trophy, over three and a half miles, carries almost as much prestige as The *Lord Ashton of* Hyde's Cup. The first time I saw Prince Rock in action was when he beat the hot favourite, Horoscope, in this race in 1975. I also remember Gillian Pearce scorching round the course on Plummers Plain, a past winner of the Whitbread Gold Cup, on the brick-hard going he loved. This year's Lyon Trophy produced an even closer *finish than the* men's four-miler, when the 1980 winner, Night School, held off Never Flap by a short head.

Ian Reid

Newmarket programme

[Television (ITV): 2.30, 3.0 and 3.30 races]

2.0 STETCHWORTH STAKES (3-y-o maidens: £2,767: 6f)

102 3- Ame To Kil, L. Cumani, 9-0 ...... P. Cook 4
103 0- Arctic Spark, B. Hills, 9-0 ...... S. Cauthen 11
105 0- Chief Moore, S. Woodman, 9-0 ...... B. Taylor 3
106 0- Community Star, B. Swift, 9-0 ...... M. Thomas 6
111 3-2 Hillsdown Lad, G. Huffer, 9-0 ...... P. Eddery 2
112 434022- Hit Record, F. Durr, 9-0 ...... P. Robinson 9
113 Home Coming, G. Harwood, 9-0 ...... G. Starkey 1
114 0- Hot Heart, R. Armstrong, 9-0 ...... L. Piggott 15
115 2- Music City, P. Walwyn, 9-0 ...... J. Mercer 12
116 Pasadina Lad, G. Huffer 9-0 ...... B. Crossley 5 16
117 030- Piencourt, C. Austin, 9-0 ...... — 13
119 43- Ring Out, W. O'Gorman, 9-0 ...... T. Ives 14
120 00004-4 Rooter, M. Ryan, 9-0 ...... G. Duffield 10
121 Sanjarida, R. Smyly, 9-0 ...... P. Waldron 5
122 00- Steelworks, B. Hills, 9-0 ...... R. Street 8
125 0- Rose Ignition, H. Wragg, 8-11 ...... J. Reid 7

7-2 Hillsdown Lad, 4-1 Music City, 5-1 Home Coming, 6-1 Hit Record, 8-1 Ame to Kill, 10-1 Ring Out, Hot Heart, 14-1 Arctic Spark, 16-1 others.

2.30 STUNTNEY STAKES (2-y-o maidens colts and geldings: £2,578: 5f)

201 2 Bold Fort, R. Hollinshead, 9-0 ...... S. Perks 3
202 2 Chris's Lad, A. Goodwill, 9-0 ...... J. Mercer 12
204 Ghawar, R. Smyth, 9-0 ...... P. Eddery 11
205 Ghenting, R. Armstrong, 9-0 ...... L. Piggott 9
206 Glider Pilot, B. Hanbury, 9-0 ...... K. Fretwell 8
208 Hittite Prince, B. Hanbury, 9-0 ...... D. Gibson 6
209 Jester, P. Rohan, 9-0 ...... C. Dwyer 7
210 Kamal, J. Hindley, 9-0 ...... B. Taylor 10
211 Major Irish, E. Eldin, 9-0 ...... P. Madden 5
213 Pamparino, B. Hills, 9-0 ...... S. Cauthen 1
215 Swift Encounter, R. J. Williams, 9-0 ...... D. Maitland 2
216 Turi, B. Swift, 9-0 ...... M. Thomas 4

5-2 Bold Fort, 5-1 Pamparino, 6-1 Chris's Lad, 7-1 Ghenting, 8-1 Kamal, 12-1 Turi, 14-1 Swift Encounter, 16-1 Ghawar, 20-1 others.

3.0 LADBROKE RACING HANDICAP (£2,401: 1¾m)

301 101010- Blakes Beacon, P. Walwyn, 4-10-0 ...... J. Mercer 6
302 121212- Ballytop, I. Balding, 4-9-12 ...... J. Matthias 5
304 123102- Morgan's Pearl (CD), W. O'Gorman, 4-9-3 ...... T. Ives 8
306 31322-0 Cowdenbeath, R. Hollinshead, 4-8-13 ...... S. Perks 7
308 30311-0 Malicious Love, H. Collingridge, 4-8-3 ...... — 4
309 4020-0d Salthouse, N. Callaghan, 4-8-2 ...... B. Crossley 5
310 40/4330- Sagitta Rocket, J. Winter, 4-8-0 ...... M. Hills 5 3
311 203120- Sunset Ray (C), J. Winter, 5-7-12 ...... W. Carson 3

5-2 Ballytop, 7-2 Blakes Beacon, 9-2 Salthouse, 5-1 Morgans Pearl, 12-1 Sunset Ray, 14-1 Malicious Love, 16-1 Cowdenbeath, 25-1 Sagitta Rocket.

3.30 CRAVEN STAKES (Group III: 3-y-o colts and geldings: £10,091: 1m)

401 11111-3 *Dalby Mustang, T. Dahl, 8-10* ...... L. Piggott 1
402 12102- Baz Bombati, G. P.-Gordon, 8-7 ...... G. Duffield 4
407 4- King Of Hush, B. Hills, 8-7 ...... S. Cauthen 5
409 213- Mushref, Thomson Jones, 8-7 ...... P. Cook 9
411 340131- Scintillating Air, B. Hobbs, 8-7 ...... G. Baxter 3
412 0110- Sunley Builds (C), G. Hunter, 8-7 ...... P. Waldron 2
413 2 Tahoe, T. Dahl, 8-7 ...... P. Tulk 6
414 21112- To-Agori-Mou, G. Harwood, 8-7 ...... G. Starkey 7
415 40- Yeled, P. Kelleway, 8-7 ...... P. Eddery 8

2-5 To-Agori-Mou, 7-1 Baz Bombati, 10-1 Dalby Mustang, 14-1 Tahoe, 20-1 Scintillating Air, 25-1 others.

4.5 CRAWFURD HANDICAP (3-y-o: £2,939: 7f)

502 342110- Scarrowmanwick (C), N. Vigors, 9-6 ...... R. Curant 23
503 4310- *African Pearl, G. P.-Gordon, 9-5* ...... *A. Bond* 25
504 021-0 Rodden, B. Swift, 9-5 ...... M. Thomas 1
505 40120- Pearlaway (D), P. Walwyn, 9-5 ...... J. Mercer 12
506 321100- Manday (D), J. Hindley, 9-4 ...... B. Taylor 11
507 112304- Olympic Glory, G. Harwood, 9-4 ...... G. Starkey 26
508 0011-00 Chumwar, D. Thom, 9-4 ...... L. Piggott 6
510 401240- Ponchielli, R. Armstrong, 9-1 ...... P. Tulk 20
511 1000- Danny Park, R. Armstrong, 9-1 ...... P. Bloomfield 15
512 120120- Airship, R. Hollinshead, 8-13 ...... S. Perks 21
513 010- Okavamba, H. Wragg, 8-12 ...... J. Reid 7
514 003114- Button Top (CD), N. Callaghan, 8-12 ...... W. Carson
515 1000- Von Erlach, F. Durr, 8-11 ...... P. Robinson 18
516 2413- Miss St Mawes, B. Hobbs, 8-11 ...... G. Baxter 10
517 323010- Akram (C), W. O'Gorman, 8-11 ...... T. Ives 14
519 403312- Master Golfer (CD), J. Sutcliffe, 8-8 ...... P. Waldron 3
520 422230- Rathmoy's Sparkle, N. Callaghan, 8-6 ...... B. Crossley 5
522 200200- Regency Prince, P. Rohan, 8-5 ...... J. Seagrave 5
525 0000- Al-Allam, R. Hills, 8-5 ...... S. Cauthen 22
526 01- Giannutri (D), P. Walwyn, 8-4 ...... P. Eddery 4
527 322310- Ring Moylan (D), M. Jarvis, 8-0 ...... D. Ford 7 13
529 043- Cloudwalker, G. Balding, 8-0 ...... W. Higgins 17
530 41424- Swedish Rhapsody, G. P.-Gordon, 7-12 ...... G. Duffield 24
531 000- Babbington, R. Armstrong, 7-7 ...... R. Still 19
532 220400- Star Issue, J. Winter, 7-7 ...... M. Hills 5 8

7-1 Olympic Glory, Giannutri, Airship, 8-1 Pearlaway, 9-1 Akram, 10-1 Chumwar, 12-1 Swedish Rhapsody, Scarrowmanwick, 14-1 African Pearl, 16-1 Manday, Button Top, 20-1 others.

4.35 ELVEDEN STAKES (3-y-o maiden fillies: £2,788: 7f)

601 00- Always Eirlys, N. Callaghan, 8-11 ...... J. Seagrave 11
602 00- Appachee Love, *B. Hills, 8-11* ...... S. *Cauthen* 2
603 Bee Imperial, H. Wragg, 8-11 ...... S. Parr 13
604 0- Biting Wit, J. Hindley, 8-11 ...... B. Taylor 7
605 Blue Gulf, B. Hanbury, 8-11 ...... K. Fretwell 7 3
606 0- Clarista, H. Wragg, 8-11 ...... P. Eddery 5
607 000403- Elizabeth Howard, I. Walker, 8-11 ...... P. Colquhoun 1
609 Habella, M. Stoute, 8-11 ...... W. Swinburn 12
610 Huppel, G. P.-Gordon, 8-11 ...... G. Duffield 17
611 Lady Be Mine, H. Cecil, 8-11 ...... L. Piggott 6
612 03- Lady Jasmine, W. Hern, 8-11 ...... W. Carson 9
613 Lady Manette, H. Wragg, 8-11 ...... J. Reid 15
616 Northern Chance, J. Winter, 8-11 ...... J. Mercer 10
617 Organist, B. Hobbs, 8-11 ...... G. Baxter 14
618 030330- Sincerely Mills, C. Brittain, 8-11 ...... M. Thomas 16
620 030- Telegrity, F. Durr, 8-11 ...... G. Starkey 4
621 0- Unbiased, L. Cumani, 8-11 ...... P. Cook 8

3-1 Lady Be Mine, 4-1 Habella, 5-1 Lady Jasmine, 7-1 Clarista, 8-1 Telegrity, 10-1 Unbiased, 14-1 Biting Wit, 16-1 Appachee Love, 20- others.

Newmarket selections

By Our Racing Correspondent
2.0 Hillsdown Lad. 2.30 Ghenting. 3.0 Salthouse. 3.30 To-Agori-Mou. 4.5 Miss St Mawes. 4.35 Habella.

By Our *Newmarket Correspondent*
2.0 Hillsdown Lad. 2.30 Ghenting. 3.0 Sunset Ray. 3.30 Mushref. 4.5 Miss St Mawes. 4.35 Habella.

National Stud virus

The director of the National Stud announced yesterday that there have been four further cases of rhinopneumonitis at the stud. *These were all in isolation* and are connected with the case reported on March 16.

Mehta goes forth

The Ugandan Asian, Shekhar Mehta, hopes to become the first driver to win the Safari car rally four times in Nairobi this weekend. He heads a *strong Datsun* works team.—Reupter.

Wolverhampton card

2.30 SPRING STAKES (Div I: 3-y-o maidens: £828: 5f)

1 00- Boldly Go, R. Akehurst, 9-0 Raymond 8
2 30- Khaleel, A. Hide, 9-0 ...... Sexton 3
3 0- Sayfar's Grey, D. Leslie, 9-0 A. Jones 5
4 Byblos, W. O'Gorman, 8-11 Kimberley 4
5 000- Crowebronze, R. Hollinshead, 8-11 Paul Eddery 5 2
6 Glimmer, H. Price, 8-11 ...... Rouse 9
7 200-3 Jade Empress, K. Ivory, 8-11 Leason 7
9 0304- Sovereign Castle, K. Ivory, 8-11 Campbell 7 10
10 000-3 The Huyton Girls, M. James, 8-11 Connorton 5 6
11 000- Vaguely Divine, C. Hunter, 8-11 Rogers 1

11-4 Glimmer, 100-30 Khaleel, 5-1 Byblos, 11-2 Jade Empress, 8-1 The Huyton Girls, 10-1 Vaguely Divine, 12-1 Sovereign Castle, 16-1 others.

3.0 BROCKTON HANDICAP (Selling: £621: 1m 3f)

1 000-0 Zobo, R. Hollinshead, 4-10-0 Carcary 7 4
2 030-0 Miss Gaylord, K. Ivory, 4-9-10 Howard 6
5 /000- Sovereign Tower, W. Charles, 4-9-7 Howlett 7 2
6 040- Miss Louise, R. E. Peacock, 4-9-7 Bell 7 1
9 000- Miss Falcon, B. Cambidge, 5-9-3 Anderson 7 11
10 0000- Harry Lawrence, L. Barratt, 3-9-2 Vaughan 9
11 0400- No No Holdings, P. Fielden, 5-9-2 Fielden 7 5
12 0044- Lauking, D. H. Jones, 4-9-2 .. Sims 3 10
13 0400- Winking Fields, D. Weeden, 5-9-2 Gibson 7 8
14 0/00- Brahms and Liszt (B), A. Balding 5-9-2 Fozzard 7 13
15 000-0 Frank Stewart (B), R. Ward, 4-9-2 Spiak 7 7
16 0000- *Lady Romaha, S. Willes, 4-9-2* .. — 14
17 00-00 Mr Money Bags, R. Morris, 5-8-10 Moore 7 3
18 000-0 Poniet, D. Ancil, 3-8-0 .... B. Jones 12

4-1 Miss Gaylord, 5-1 Lauking, 11-2 Zobo, 6-1 Winking Fields, 8-1 Brahms and Liszt, 9-1 Frank Stewart, 10-1 Sovereign Tower, Miss Louise, 12-1 Harry Lawrence, 16-1 others.

3.30 MUCH WENLOCK HANDICAP (£1,825: 1m 1f)

1 10-00 Brenans Glen, M. Kauntze, 6-10-0 Raymond 12
4 0000- Downtown Agent, C. Brittain, 4-8-5 E. Johnson 10
5 020/ Ph Your Wits, D. H. Jones, 5-8-1 Salmon 4
6 00/0 Forest Lodge, D. Gandolfo, 6-8-1 Newnes 3 17
7 00-01 Sporting Covergirl, N. Callaghan, 4-8-1 McGlone 7 11
11 44/0 Elysee Palace, B. Palling, 5-7-11 Launchbury 5
12 1200- Our Birthday (B), C. Benstead, 5-7-9 Fox 8
13 012-4 Greatest Hits, D. Laing, 4-7-9 Payne 7 1
14 4200- On Edge (CD), J. Spearing, 6-7-8 — 15
15 0000- Restless Lady, H. Price, 4-7-8 .. Blanks 13
16 2000- *Doty, J. Bradley, 4-7-7* ...... — 2
17 212-2 Malvan, R. Turnell, 5-7-7 .... Clark 5 9
18 0343- Saucy Sergent, R. Hollinshead, 4-7-7 Paul Eddery 5 3
19 4303- Steel City, L. Cottrell, 7-7-7 Jenkinson 16
20 4000- Polwick, M. Ryan, 4-7-7 .. R. Hills 7 12
21 000/ Debsboy, K. Cunningham-Brown, 6-7-7 B. Jones 5 7
22 0000- Gipsy Prince, J. Tierney, 6-7-7 McKay 6

11-4 Brenans Glen, 3-1 Malvan, 100-30 Sporting Covergirl, 6-1 Greatest Hits, 8-1 Steel City, 9-1 Our Birthday, 14-1 others.

4.0 BIRCHES BRIDGE STAKES (3-y-o maidens: £828: 1m 1f)

1 *Boxberger Boy, M. Ryan, 9-0* .... Cain 1
2 Halsbury, P. Walwyn, 9-0 .. I. Johnson 3
3 Illini, B. Hanbury, 9-0 ...... Raymond 4
5 Somel, C. Brittain, 9-0 .. E. Johnson 6
6 Barney Kempinski, C. Nelson, 8-11 Rogers 11
7 Cave Diver, E. Beeson, 8-11 .. Salmon 2
8 Dusty Isles, M. McCormack, 8-11 Newnes 3 13
9 Miss Streaky, R. Houghton, 8-11 Yates 10
11 Olderfleet, W. H-Bass, 8-11 .. Young 7
12 Petra's Seal, R. Hollinshead, 8-11 Paul Eddery 5 9
13 Sugaran, D. Wintle, 8-11 .... Howe 5 12
14 Sujono, M. Scudamore, 8-11 Wharton 5
15 Zaratune, J. Edmunds, 8-11 Jenkinson 8

2-1 Halsbury, 100-30 Miss Streaky, 5-1 Somel, 13-2 Olderfleet, 8-1 Barney Kempinski, 10-1 Dusty Isles, 12-1 Illini, 16-1 others.

4.30 MOLINEUX HANDICAP (£1,025: 7f)

1 440-0 Crofthall (D), A. Balding, 4-10-0 — 9
3 400-0 Royal Connection, J. Bradley, 5-10-0 Launchbury 8
4 0000- Gimri (D), C. Benstead, 8-10-0 Rouse 2
5 00-02 Sky Jump (D), B. Swift, 7-10-0 McGlone 7 10
6 00-01 Miss Mirabelle (D), M. Jarvis, 5-10-0 Raymond 15
7 0001- Hermia (D), J. Winter, 4-9-13 Kimberley 1
8 2021- Princess Koflyah (C), W. Guest, 4-9-13 Gunn 4
9 0100- Swing The Axe (D), D. Weeden, 4-9-13 Young 11
10 00-00 Blue Jane (B), D. H. Jones, 4-9-12 Ramshaw 14
11 040-0 Young Croftie (B), R. Morris, 4-9-10 Morris 13
13 040-2 Docklands, C. Brittain, 4-9-6 E. Johnson 16
14 000-0 Record Breaker, B. McMahon, 5-9-6 Leason 7
16 0300- Marties Boy, M. Haynes, 4-9-4 Blanks 8
19 0240- Fettered (CD), N. Vigors, 7-9-1 Cregg 7 17
20 000-0 Teagarden, D. Sasse, 4-9-1 .... McKay 12
21 00-20 Turbo, A. W. Jones, 6-8-11 Paul Eddery 5 6
22 0030- Tower Win, C. Benstead, 4-8-10 .. Fox 3

11-4 Miss Mirabelle, 100-30 Sky Jump, 5-1 Docklands, 13-2 Princess Koflyah, 8-1 Hermia, 9-1 Marties Boy, 10-1 Crofthall, 12-1 Gimri, 16-1 others.

5.0 SPRING STAKES (Div II: 3-y-o maidens: £828: 5f)

1 000-0 Boldwin, R. Ward, 9-0 ...... Salmon 7
2 00- *Fairdale, L. Cottrell, 9-0* .. *I. Johnson* 5
3 022- Hayato, J. Winter, 9-0 .... Raymond 8
4 000- Motorcentre, S. Holland, 9-0 Cochrane 5 4
7 0- Evadne, H. Price, 8-11 ...... Rouse 6
8 000- Hoba Supreme, R. E. Peacock, 8-11 — 7
9 000-0* Play Me, D. Leslie, 8-11 2
12 0- Royal Gala, L. Barratt, 8-11 .. Rogers 9
14 000-0 Wembley Market, K. Ivory, 8-11 Leason 1

4-9 Hayato, 3-1 Evadne, 10-1 Fairdale, 12-1 Wembley Market, 16-1 others.

*Doubtful runner

Wolverhampton selections

By Our Racing Correspondent
2.30 Glimmer. 3.0 Zobo. 3.30 Malvan. 4.0 Halsbury. 4.30 Sky Jump. 5.0 HAYATO is specially recommended.

By Our Newmarket Correspondent
2.30 Byblos. 3.0 No No Holdings. 3.30 Sporting Covergirl. 4.0 Olderfleet. 4.30 Docklands. 5.0 Hayato.

Hamilton programme

2.15 AUCHINRAITH HANDICAP (Apprentices: £913: 1m 3f)

1 4-00 Prince Warren, R. Stubbs, 4-10-0 .. Barnes 4
2 210- Hay Ride (C), W. Guest, 8-9-7 .... Guest 12
3 10/0 Bustodaway, G. Richards, 5-9-4 .... Dodd 2
4 000- Carlton Hall (C), Denys Smith, 4-9-0 Campbell 7
8 000- Charlie's Sunshine, R. Fisher, 4-8-10 Beecroft 9
10 40-0 Brigadier Green, W. H. Williams, 4-8-8 Longair 3 3
11 302- Winter Sunshine (CD), P. Haslam, 5-8-6 Hodgson 13
12 30-1 Dance Little Lady, J. Fitzgerald, 4-8-4 Lady G. Brown 11
13 003- Chabrias, A. Jarvis, 6-8-1 ...... Jarvis 3 5
14 12-0 Mr Petit, P. Asquith, 3-7-12 .... Peckham 10
18 0/0 Waleed, W. Musson, 6-7-7 ...... Holgate 6
19 /00- Tom Hera, J. Berry, 4-7-7 ...... Geran 3 1
20 000- Calmaculler, A. W. Jones, 4-7-7 .... — 8

3-1 Dance Little Lady, 4-1 Hay Ride, 9-2 Prince Warren, 6-1 Winter Sunshine, 7-1 Brigadier Green, 10-1 Chabrias, 16-1 Mr Petit, Waleed, 20-1 others.

2.45 QUARRY HANDICAP (Selling: £793: 1m)

2 00-03 Best Tradition, M. Naughton, 4-9-0
3 430-0 Ecchinswell Oak, W. Guest, 4-9-0 .. — 6
7 3220- Hirsute, P. Asquith, 4-8-10 ...... Lowe 4
9 0000- Friths Folly, R. Hobson, 4-8-4 .. Nicholls 10
10 0000- Billy Kip, R. Fisher, 4-8-4 .... Hide 8
13 042-0 Consent, J. Wilson, 3-8-2 ...... Carlisle 5 5
14 221-0 Audit (CD), G. Richards, 3-8-2 .... Wood 9
15 00-0 Soltara, R. Stubbs, 3-8-2 ...... Webster 1
17 00-23 Maurice's Tip, M. Tompkins, 3-7-8 Bradwell 5 5
18 440-0 Serpico (B), J. Berry, 3-7-7 ...... Darley 2

11-4 Audit, 7-2 Maurice's Tip, 5-1 Consent, 6-1 Hirsute, 7-1 Best Tradition, 8-1 Ecchinswell Oak, 10-1 Soltara, 16-1 others.

3.15 DECHMONT STAKES (3-y-o: Maidens: £699: 6f)

1 200-0 Arandar, W. H. Williams, 9-0 ...... Birch 9
2 0- Carpenters Boy, *Denys Smith*, 9-0 Sidebottom 3
3 000- Cree Breeze, G. Richards, 9-0 ...... Wood 1
8 0000- Golden Beby, A. W. Jones, 8-11 .. Wigham 7
9 00- Lucky Tina, J. Berry, 8-11 ...... Darley 6
11 4000- Noble Perry, Mrs A. Bell, 8-11 Hutchinson 4
13 003-0 Star Heading, W. H. Williams, 8-11 Longair 5
15 02- Time-Table, J. W. Watts, 8-11 ...... Hide 8
16 000- Willow Herb, W.H-Bass, 8-11 McKeown 5 3

5-2 Time-Table, 3-1 Willow Herb, 7-2 Carpenters Boy, 11-2 Star Heading, 8-1 Lucky Tina, 12-1 Arandar, 16-1 others.

***3.45 MIDDLEWARD HANDICAP** (6f: £1,730)*

1 000-0 Welcombe, R. Hobson, 4-10-0 Sidebottom 5 1
2 00-41 Skin Deep (D), W. Musson, 8-9-1 Holgate 7 3
3 004-3 Moybrook (D), G. Richards, 5-8-13 Hide 4
4 0100- Russian Winter (CD, B), A. W. Jones, 6-8-10 Wigham 2
5 3110- Habalook (D), C. Bell, 4-8-8 ...... Gray 9
7 232-0 Deputy (D), J. Fitzgerald, 4-8-3 Carlisle 10
9 02-02 Blues, W. Guest, 4-7-13 Mark Rimmer 4 8
11 133-1 Pagapas Bay (D), A. Jarvis, 4-7-12 Lowe 13
12 040-4 Our Foxbar (C,D), M. Naughton, 6-7-11 Mercer 7
14 040-0 Secret Express (CD, B), R. Stubbs, 5-7-9 Webster 11
15 003-0 Royal Bat, I. Walker, 5-7-7 .... Colquhoun 6
16 0400- Splendid Surprise (C), W. H. Williams Longair 7 8
20 1000- Babas Baily (C), Peter Taylor, 3-7-7 — 12

7-2 Moybrook, 4-1 Pagapas Bay, 5-1 Skin Deep, 6-1 Russian Winter, 8-1 Blues, 12-1 Habalook, 14-1 Our Foxbar, 16-1 Deputy, 25-1 others.

4.15 CAMPSIE STAKES (2-y-o: Maidens: £635: 5f)

1 0 Prince Strasse, P. Haslam, 9-0 .... Kettle 5
2 0 Marks Dream, T. Fairhurst, 8-5 .... Gray 1
3 Bonne Baiser, A. Jarvis, 7-13 .... Lowe 3
5 Nagalia, K. Stone, 7-13 .... Wigham 2
7 Royal Grant, W. H. Williams, 7-13 Longair 7 6
9 0 Tower Lady, G. Blum, 7-13 Mark Rimmer 5 4

9-4 Bone Baiser, 7-2 Prince Strasse, 4-1 Tower Lady, 5-1 Nagalia, 7-1 Marks Dream, 10-1 Royal Grant.

4.45 HOLYTOWN STAKES (3-y-o: Maidens: £578: 1½m)

1 000-3 Auld Mung, Denys Smith, 9-0 Sidebottom 5 6
2 -0204 Luxembourg (B), R. Stubbs, 9-0 Webster 4
4 000-2 Rheingold's Gift, C. Brittain, 9-0 Bradwell 5 5
5 0000- Donalian, T. Craig, 8-11 ...... Graham 7 3
6 00- Megs Girl, A. W. Jones, 8-11 .. Wigham 2
7 Simingia, J. W. Watts, 8-11 ...... Hide 1

7-4 Rheingold's Gift, 11-4 Auld Mung, 3-1 Simingia, 8-1 Luxembourg, 14-1 Megs Girl, 16-1 Donalian.

Hamilton Park selections

By Our Racing Staff
2.15 Winter Sunshine. 2.45 Audit. 3.15 Carpenters Boy. 3.45 Moybrook. 4.15 Nagalia. 4.45 Rheingold's Gift.

By Our Newmarket Correspondent
2.15 Hay Ride. 2.45 Maurice's Tip. 3.15 Willow Herb. 3.45 *Skin Deep.* 4.15 Tower Lady. 4.45 Rheingold's Gift.

Snooker

Mountjoy keeps Charlton at bay

By Sydney Friskin

The all-star cast of snooker players at Sheffield's Crucible Theatre continued to entertain vast audiences yesterday at the world professional championships, sponsored and organized by Embassy. The curtain went up again in the afternoon to let Doug Mountjoy, of Wales, into the quarter final round. He beat Eddie Charlton, of Australia, by 13 frames to seven.

Charlton, who at one stage was well in the game at 6—6, could not match Mountjoy's fluency yesterday and the Welshman stretched his lead to 12—6. When he started the next frame with a break of 46, the end seemed in sight, but when he missed an easy red, he gave Charlton the incentive to come back and win the frame with a useful break of 34.

The next frame was closely fought, with Mountjoy just managing to stay ahead despite two breaks of 31 by Charlton; Mountjoy responded with breaks of 31 and 34. After the match Charlton blamed his excessive international commitments for his loss of form, adding the with only three Australian professionals left at home there was little chance of proper match practice for the world championship.

The day's best entertainment rested at the adjoining table, where the young Canadian, Kirk Stevens, and Dennis Taylor, of Northern Ireland, were locked in a tense second round battle for supremacy. When play began yesterday, Stevens led 9—7 but had apparently not fully recovered from the shock of the previous night when Taylor won the 16th frame with a full clearance break of 135, the highest so far in the tournament. It consisted of 15 reds, nine blacks, three pinks, two blues, one yellow and all the colours.

So it was with some caution that Stevens approached his task yesterday despite the reckless start by Taylor, who conceded four points with his opening shot. Still, Taylor won the frame to shorten the gap, but Stevens went into the interval leading 11—9 and needing only two frames to win. Back came Taylor with a total *clearance of 133. In another* 20 minutes he had squared the match at 11—11.

Taylor eventually won 13—11.

In a quarter-final match which began in the morning and will be spread over three days, Steve Davis and Terry Griffiths were level at four frames all. Griffiths, who was 4—2 behind, found his best form to win the next two frames. By the end of the morning the burly Canadian, Bill Werbeniuk, led Perrie Mans, of South Africa, 11—5 in the second round.

SECOND ROUND: D. Mountjoy (Wales) beat E. Charlton (Australia), 17—7, (Mountjoy first): 65—53, 64—27, 87—26, 87—39, 66—67, 56—64, 42—71, 10—62, 61—68, 62—51, 51—54, 78—25, 71—23, 67—22, 62—48, 67—36, 79—47, 86—35, 46—78, 74—62.

Hockey

Ireland depend on withdrawal of New Zealand

Bombay, April 13.—Ireland will join England in the fifth World Cup championship here next December if New Zealand drop out. Uncertainty has arisen over New Zealand's participation in the event, which lasts from December 29 to January 12, because there has been no official word from them.

Ireland, who failed by one place to qualify from the recent Intercontinental Cup championship in Kuala Lumpur, will be in the same pool 'A', if they compete, as Pakistan, the defending champions, West Germany, Spain, Argentina and Poland.

England will be in pool 'B' along with India, the 1980 Olympic champions, the Netherlands, Austria, the Soviet Union and Malaysia. The Soviet Union, New Zealand and Malaysia were Kuala Lumpur.—Reuter.

Staying down under

The New Zealand Rugby League player, Fred Ah Kuoi, has decided to take up an Australian offer and not to play for Hull in this country. Ah Kuoi, aged 23, is joining the North Sydney club.—Reuter.

Cycling

Elliott's good beginning

From John Wilcockson
Le Touquet, April 13

The 66 starters in today's prologue time trial, which opened the fourth Sealink international race, had to battle through a cold sea mist, closing their eyes against sand blown off the beach as they raced along the Boulevard de la Plage here.

As expected it was the East German team, in their mist-grey skinsuits, that battled the hardest; the fastest was the Olympic silver medallist and former world team trial champion, Falk Boden. His winning time for the 1.5 miles was three minutes 33.2 seconds, almost five seconds or about 75 yards better than his team colleague, Hans-Joachim Meisch, who took second place. The East German dominance was completed by Joerg Kobler and Andreas Petermann, who also finished in the top 10.

An encouraging fourth place was taken by the British 19-year-old Malcolm Elliott. He has performed well in track racing, in hill climbs and in long-distance road races and will prove a useful ally for his team leader, Bob Downs, the 1980 Sealink winner who took seventh place today.

With four riders in the first 12 Britain can view with optimism the week ahead, but it seems unlikely that they will be able to match East Germany and Czechoslovakia in Thursday afternoon's 41-mile team trial between Basingstoke and Swindon. Times recorded in this stage will count towards the individual classification, and it is probable that Boden and his band will win this test by perhaps five minutes, and emerge the overall winners in Manchester on Saturday.

Two late changes to the announced teams have brought to the starting line the 1976 Peace Race winner, Hans-Joachim Hartnick (East Germany), and the Czech, Michel Klasa, who yesterday won the five-day circuit of the Ardennes. In this same race Klasa's compatriot, Milos Hrazdira, finished second and also won the hill-climbing prize while *Rostislav Veteska finished fifth* after winning the final stage.

These will be some of the names to look for when the race proper sets out tomorrow for Boulogne, leaving the Boulevard de la Plage to the aristocratic Le Touquet residents walking their poodles through the mist.

TIME TRIAL: 1. F. Boden (EG), 3mins 33.2secs; 2. H. Meisch (EG), 3:37.[illegible]; 3. M. Marcussen (Denmark), 3.38.[illegible]; 4. M. *Elliott* (GB), 3:38.5; 5. V. Konecny (Czechoslovakia), 3:39.0; 6. J. Kobler (EG), 3:39.1; 7. R. Downs (GB), 3.39.3; 8. S. Poulter (England), 3.40.4; 9. S. Jacobsen (Denmark), 3:40.5; 10. A. Petermann (EG), 3.40.8; 11. J. Waugh (GB), 3:41.0; 12. S. Joughin (GB), 3.42.0.

Folkestone results

1.45 (1.48) CHATHAM STAKES (2-y-o, £953: 5f)
LOCKWOOD GIRL, b f, by Prince Tenderfoot—Malmsey, 8-13 P. Cook (11-4 fav) 1
Paul's Ivory .... A. Clark (3-1) 2
[illegible]

11p. Dual F: £5.99. CSF: £30.93. R. Swift, at Epsom. 1½l, sh hd. Welham Green 8-11 fav (4th). 8 ran.

3.45 (3.48) DARTFORD STAKES (3-y-o maiden fillies: £552: 5f)
KISS, b f, by Habitat—Miss Petard 8-11 .... G. Starkey (5-1 fav) 1
Myra's Pet ...... P. Tulk (33-1) 2
Trichoria ...... P. Waldron (11-1) 3
[illegible]

Wolverhampton results

[illegible]

Superb Singer K. Leason (5-6fav) 2
Sally's Symphony S. Perks (4-1) 3
TOTE: Win, 12p; Dual F 11p. CSF: 33p. P. Haslam at Newmarket. 1l, 1l. 3 ran. Winner bought in for 1,050 gns.

3.30 (3.33) WULFRUNA HANDICAP (£1,009: 5f)
DHUARD br c Perdu—High Fidelity
[illegible]

Majorian .... B. Rouse (7-1) 2
Super Service J. Mercer (7-2) 3
TOTE: Win, 55p; places, 17p, 28p, 18p. Dual F: £1.49. CSF: £1.49. H. Cecil at Newmarket. Nk, 1½l. Welsh Noble (5-1) 4th. 15 ran.

5.30 (5.33) WHITELADIES STAKES (Div II: 3-y-o maiden fillies: £828: 1m 1f)
[illegible]

Edinburgh results

[illegible]

TAKACHIHO, b h, by Don II—Face Lift (G. McGuinness), 9-8-3 S. Webster (6-1) 1
Pounentes .... E. Hide (7-2) 2
Part-Ex .... A. Proud (9-1) 3
TOTE: Win, 75p; places, 15p, 16p, 15p. Dual F: 96p. CSF: £2.70. T. Craig, at Dunbar. Sh hd, 5l. Pittencrieff 11-4 fav. Polliform (14-1) 4th. 10 ran.

[illegible]

For the record

Football

ROMANIAN LEAGUE: [illegible]

Baseball

AMERICAN LEAGUE: Boston Red Sox [illegible]

Golf

RALEIGH (North Carolina): Final [illegible]

Ice hockey

[illegible]

Basketball

[illegible]

Tennis

[illegible]

Polo

[illegible]

The rebels out to win with guns and a prayer

Trevor Fishlock, in the first of three articles on the guerrilla war in Afghanistan, reports from inside the Mujahidin stronghold of Torabora

The blackened rubble of Torabora war camp bears witness to its importance as a Mujahidin base. Russian gunships have bombed and rocketed it many times; the doctor is still swabbing stinging iodine on shrapnel gashes after the last raid, but the guerrillas are grinning and their black and white flag flies jauntily, a sort of thumbed nose. The Russians have failed to blast them from their mountain crevices and Mujahidin confidence, vigour and capability are growing.

After 12 days in Afghanistan, including three among the 200 Mujahidin lodged in this hideout above the roaring Agam river, I left with a clear impression of a guerrilla force increasingly well organized, armed and supplied.

In this area at least the traditional picture of yelling motley bands of wild and ill-disciplined tribesmen is no longer accurate. Fierceness, ruthlessness and devotion to fighting remain their uneroded stock in trade. But to these qualities have been grafted a strong command structure and a sense of order and purpose.

The Mujahidin in Nangahar province have not only consolidated—they have also extended their area of control by driving government sympathizers out. They believe they are getting the enemy's measure and their evident good morale derives from the feeling that strength is growing in their sinews.

Torabora is the headquarters of one of the new breed of mountain chiefs of Afghanistan, Abdul Khayum is a thoughtful and courteous former geography teacher, aged 30, who has exchanged his Jalalabad classroom for this 2,000ft eyrie, and his books for bandoliers, a Soviet Kalashnikov automatic rifle and a belt with a couple of full 30-round magazines stuck in it.

Abdul Khayum is a province commander. From Torabora he plans and directs attacks on Russian and Afghan army positions throughout Nangahar province, and especially in the city of Jalalabad, 32 miles to the north, the scene of constant fighting.

There are four major commanders under him, and each of these heads about a dozen groups of about 30 men who have their own sub-commanders.

The relationship between commanders and men is easy and informal, but the leaders have genuine authority. Many of them are former teachers and count former students among their men.

A typical group going out on a raid has, as I saw, about 15 Kalashnikovs, a light machine gun on a bipod, an assortment of rifles, full ammunition pouches and belts, and one or two Soviet shoulder-held rocket-propelled grenade launchers, with youths, like powder monkeys, carrying the grenades.

All the men here are Nangahar men, fighting on their home ground and for it. They spend most of their time in the province and when they go to Pakistan it is usually to visit their families who are refugees.

Abdul Khayum is a prudent man. "This is going to be a long war and we have to concentrate on building our reserves of weapons and ammunition. We need some means of bringing down the helicopters, more bullets and more medical supplies. These things will come if we are patient. In 15 months since the Russians came we have grown much stronger and we have the advantage of fighting on our own soil. We will grow still stronger."

Mujahidin guerrillas with a twin-barrelled 20 millimetre cannon carried in pieces to their camp.

His prime means of waging war is to harass government troops and installations by commando raids, and to ambush lorries and troop carriers. The Mujahidin always try to retrieve weapons and ammunition during their attacks.

"The hope in the long term is a Kalashnikov for every man", Abdul Khayum said.

The Mujahidin have sympathizers in the demoralized and depleted Aghan army who are conduits for arms, and especially for ammunition. Sometimes bullets are given, sometimes sold for up to 50 pence a Kalashnikov round. Deserting soldiers frequently give their guns to the Mujahidin before heading for Pakistan, or they simply throw in their lot with the rebels. A number of men showed me their army identity cards.

A few months ago a young Afghan army officer, Naqib Ullah, who had been supplying arms to the Mujahidin, drove out of Jalalabad at the wheel of an armoured troop carrier. It now lies wrecked in a gully some miles from Torabora, and the raffish Naqib Ullah, who looks like a young Errol Flynn, is now a Mujahidin group commander.

The guerrillas have no radio system, which is probably to their advantage, and operate without maps; they know their land too well to need them. Abdul Khayum receives requests and reports in writing and sends messengers with his orders.

There are no women in Torabora. It is not a village in the usual sense, but a base where fighting men group, prepare and rest after attacks. Their needs are eminently simple and their monotonous diet consists of flat, hard wheat bread baked on iron dishes, a sort of spinach, occasional glutinous rice sprinkled with the juice of bitter oranges, and sometimes the luxury of a potato or an egg. Their most important requirement from Jalalabad, apart from ammunition, is green and black tea and the sugar which is their main energy source.

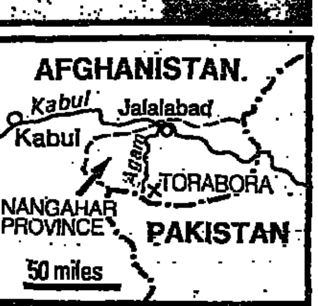
On my way in to Torabora, after a three day march over the mountains from Pakistan, the Mujahidin supply volumn I was with, had to skirt a village a few miles down the Agam river because it was being shelled by tanks and pounded by helicopter gunships.

"That is my village", Abdul Khayum said. "My own house and garden was smashed a year ago and my wife and children escaped to Pakistan."

Torabora's location protects it from tank or artillery fire, but helicopters can still get into the gorge to wreck the stronghold's scattered mud and stone buildings. The guerrillas had three Russian 20 millimetre machine guns sited in the hillsides to fight these attacks. And a few days ago they installed two brand new twin barrelled 20 millimetre cannon which they bumped up the gorge in pieces.

"They came from Jalalabad", Abdul Khayum said cryptically each of the gun emplacements is manned around the clock. Each has a cave for living and a magazine store, with a rock door, dug into the mountainside.

The development of their fire power, and the swelling of their armoury is a source of considerable pride among the Mujahidin here. It is part of the basis of their belief that they will win in the end, and an important contribution to the high spirits which characterize Torabora's community and the groups I met on the plains to the north.



But also important is their faith. The five times a day ritual of prayer is observed by the majority of the men. They finger their prayer beads as lovingly as they stroke their well cared-for guns. It often seems that their prayers have become an assertion of their will to resist. A young man stripping off his bandolier and laying down his rifle before saying his prayers at sunset said "We pray, we win."

If there had been a third man at Fermanagh . . .

by John Hume, leader of the Social Democratic and Labour Party

The election of a hunger striker in the Maze prison is a pointed reminder of just how deeply the Northern Ireland community is divided. Only a fraction of the 30,000 voters who elected him support violence—that has been proved in election after election, and poll after poll of public opinion.

A far greater proportion of his vote came from people who are genuinely concerned about the prison problem and who felt that they were voting for a humanitarian solution of it. But the great majority of the votes came from people who were voting against Unionism and in support of their Irish identity, as they have done for generations. For them any anti-Unionist candidate is better than a Unionist, regardless of his background or connexions. I believe that in these circumstances Parliament must not expel Mr Robert Sands.

Above all, this election demonstrates how damaging the "first past the post" electoral system is in Northern Ireland's circumstances. In finely balanced constituencies like Fermanagh and South Tyrone, Westminster elections give rise to a hue and cry for "unity" candidates. Of its very nature that urge has a polarizing effect on both communities, and drives them to their polar extremes.

Parties of change and movement are at a disadvantage; the electorate tends to rally to the candidates who most loudly proclaim allegiance to traditional aspirations; the urge is to maximize the sectarian vote to keep "the other side" out. All medium term and long-term considerations are swept aside.

In this election, with Mr Noel Maguire, brother of the previous MP in the field, the Social Democratic and Labour Party would have faced the electorally unforgivable charge of handing the seat to the Unionists with the resulting overall damage to the party's permanent standing. Subsequently, and after the close of nominations, Mr Maguire withdrew his candidature in peculiar and unexplained circumstances, leaving Mr Sands alone in the field.

In the Westminster election of February 1974, the sectarian tendency led to a landslide against the power-sharing executive, even though the opinion polls showed that a large majority of the voters favoured the executive.

Proportional representation is vital for all elections in Northern Ireland: otherwise the process of political change will be brought to a halt or even reversed, by periodic tribal contests of this kind.

The stark fact of this election is that no perceptible element among the Catholic population could envisage voting for the British connexion in any circumstances. It is, however, equally true that no perceptible element among the Protestant population would be prepared to vote for an anti-Unionist candidate of whatever kind. That fundamental cleavage remains.

On each side of the divide people cling to old aspirations, which basically involve a surrender of identity and aspirations by "the other side". But the politics of conquest are sterile, unrealistic and hopeless. It is impossible to force people to be what they are not, or to prevent them being what they are. A way must be found of accommodating both aspirations within a framework which allows people to be what they are, and which enables them to cooperate together in government without prejudice to their basic identity.

That has been the policy of the Social Democratic and Labour Party from the beginning. We have succeeded in persuading the great majority of anti-Unionists to follow us, and we have attracted some Protestant support, though minimal.

In PR elections where voters are released from sectarian pressures we have maintained a significant level of support for our position. We will continue to do so. But ultimately any political party must be able to show its followers some movement, some hope of progress towards achievement of their policies.

The most disturbing aspect of Northern Ireland politics is that there has been no similar modification of the Unionist position. If anything, Unionist leaders have drifted steadily to the right. Those unionist leaders who attempted to rethink traditional attitudes were quickly dispatched at the polls. Paisleyism is in the ascendant.

The attitude of Unionists is natural and inevitable. In the struggles of the early part of this century they won the contest. The Northern Ireland state was created for them and they were given control of it. Having chosen sectarianism as the basis of their state they have found themselves trapped by that same sectarianism.

It is inevitable that they regard any movement away from the present position as a victory for "the other side". In present circumstances they are prisoners of their own history and cannot change. Therefore the circumstances must be changed.

Present political arrangements are the result of a lengthy struggle at the beginning of this century to reshape relationships between the peoples of these islands. The 1921 settlement has not provided lasting stability and it was not meant to be a final settlement. The whole matter of relationships between Ireland and Britain has not been thoroughly or finally worked out. That is a task requiring urgent attention and thankfully the sovereign governments in London and Dublin have set their minds to it at last.

The process begun by the two Prime Ministers in January promises a new framework of relationships within these islands which could transform the context of the Northern Ireland problem. In those new circumstances of closer links and cooperation between the two islands, it will be easier for Unionist leaders to move out of the trenches without fear of the erosion of their identity.

In creating a new framework we do not have to be bound by any existing or previously existing models. The time is right for courageous and imaginative leadership in London, Dublin and Belfast.

There is a unique relationship between Ireland and Britain. Our history has bound us together with economic, social, cultural and political ties to numerous dimensions. To give institutional expression to that relationship is not to undermine the basic interests of the Northern Ireland majority but rather to give them added security.

That new security would change the political circumstances within Ireland itself and make possible an end to our age-old conflict, and give adequate expression to the statement of Irish identity so forcefully expressed by the majority of the electorate in Fermanagh and South Tyrone.

In the meantime, I hope that sounds from London of threats by the mother of parliaments to expel a democratically and legally elected member—whatever his views or however unpalatable they are—have no foundation. Is it the Westminster Parliament who will decide who sits there, or the electorate? In essence they would be saying to the electorate in Fermanagh and South Tyrone: "Send us someone who is more to our liking in a new election".

They would find no self respecting democrat in Northern Ireland to participate in such an election. In addition they would give enormous credence to the physical force movement, whose essential argument is that the ballot box is a waste of time.

Bernard Levin

A fond pip pip to my priggish friends

I suppose I ought to annoy the food prigs once more before I go. I have been back to Père Bise, and on the same trip I visited the legendary Girardet for the first time, and on top of that discovered Chez Pierre, of which I had never even heard. So if the prigs will kindly finish their baked beans, and my gastronomic and professorial pen friend will pour out a glass of something pleasant and settle down to enjoy himself, you shall hear.

Business took me to Montreux which was in itself a nostalgic journey, for it was the first place I went to on my very first visit abroad, more decades ago than I care to remember. (I can even remember the name of the hotel I stayed at on that occasion: the Bonivard). And just along the road from Montreux, in a suburb of Lausanne called Crissier, there stands the restaurant of Frédy Girardet, of whom I have heard many good judges say that it can compare with the best in France: a large claim. You can indeed eat well in Switzerland, and I often have (at the Veltliner Keller in Zürich, for instance, the Euler in Basle, and Chesa Veglia in St Moritz), but a comparison with the best in France is another matter, and I have long felt the need to judge for myself.

So I did; but the night before I lunched chez Girardet I went into Vevey to try Chez Pierre, which I had found in a little booklet called *La route Suisse des plaisirs de la table* (if the publishers of it, who seem to constitute a kind of club rather like the organization of Relais de Campagne restaurants, are reading this, I would be grateful if they would send me an up-to-date copy). There is a brasserie downstairs, and a tiny restaurant up; up I went.

I began with the *foie gras chaud aux raisins*, poached in a lovely truffly sauce which I mopped up with about three-quarters of a loaf of the wickedly delicious home-baked dark bread Pierre Béthaz provides. (The pips had not been removed from the grapes. I didn't mind, indeed it was nice to have something which crunched amid the smoothness, but I feel obliged to mention it thus, as it is the kind of item that particularly upsets the prigs). Hesitating over the next course, I took M Béthaz's advice and had the *poussin aux morilles*, nor did I regret it, for it was buried beneath a huge mound of the delicious little crinkly mushrooms, and the bird was as tender as whipped cream. Three or four cheeses later, I took a mélange of five miniature sorbets; I foolishly forgot to note them, and can only remember the lemon and the passion fruit.

I drank Swiss throughout, of course, a nice crisp Aigle with the *foie gras* and a Dézaley with the bird; I am always pleasantly surprised by Swiss wine, and wish I saw more of it. I went to bed well pleased with life, and reflecting that with the memory of Chez Pierre under my belt, I was well equipped in case I was disappointed at Girardet.

O, but I wasn't! It is beautifully and tastefully decorated, and as soon as I sat down I realized why it is necessary to book there a month in advance; there is room for only 44 diners. Lucky 44, and lucky I to be one of them, for the meal which followed fully lived up to the most extravagant claims made for M Girardet's cooking. Having done so well with M Béthaz' *foie gras*, I decided to begin with the Girardet version, in which it is poached in wine vinegar with walnut oil added, and to go on with *La côtelette de pigeon aux choux verts*, but the head waiter suggested that I might like to take a demi-portion of the *foie gras* and follow it by another entree. To this wise proposal I naturally assented with alacrity, and settled for lobster, which came with a sauce of langoustines, and slices from a truffle that must have been the size of a football.

The whole proceedings, I should mention, were preceded by a wedge of tarte, a variation on *pissaladière*, and what with that and the *foie gras* (the vinegar setting off the richness of the meat in a most notable manner) and the lobster (fresh as though it had been caught in Lac Léman that very morning) my appetite was quite whetted for the pigeon. It came wrapped in the inner leaves of the *choux vert*—an odd combination on paper, but the vegetable's mildness was a fine foil for the strong meat of the pigeon. I had been drinking Krug as an aperitif, and went on with it up to the pigeon, with which I drank a good powerful Dôle, also very suitable for the gamy little bird.

Girardet's cheese trolley is a noble sight, so lavish that it includes three Gruyères—*salé*, *mi-doux* and *doux*. I had the middle one, together with a rich Vacherin, a Tomme Vaudoise, and a couple of local *chèvres*, and by the time I had finished I was seriously doubting whether I could manage more than another couple of courses. Fortunately, only two more were necessary; first, a delicate *mille-feuille*, reminiscent in its lightness of the desserts of M Ménager, the maître-patissier who runs the Hostellerie du Moulin de Maine-Brun at Angoulême, and then Girardet's selection of sorbets, which includes grapefruit and tea — the last so unexpected that for the life of me I could not put the name to the taste, and had to ask. The whole meal was perfect, and perfectly-balanced; *vaut le voyage*.

I did not feel like much dinner that night, so I spent the evening thinking about the morrow and Père Bise. The morrow dawned sunny, and got sunnier as I approached; when I arrived, the lake was sparkling, a handsome swan floating majestically at the edge. Inside, nothing had changed; Madame's smile was as welcoming as ever, and soon after I had dispatched the *parfait de foie d'oie* I was listening to the sound of the *meunière* butter bubbling on my *omble chevalier*, that rare fish, like the most delicately pink-fleshed trout, that is said to be found nowhere but in Lake Geneva and Lake Annecy. That hadn't changed, either, but tarragon being out of season, I couldn't have my usual *poularde braisée a la crème d'estragon*; instead, I had it *aux truffes* (about a hundredweight of them), and readily succumbed to the suggestion of the other half when I had dispatched the first lot along with some rice and a lightly-dressed lettuce salad. (Old man Bise used personally to pinch the bosom of every chicken admitted to his kitchen, rejecting *sans phrases* any with even a hint of toughness. I have no doubt the process is still being followed today).

Only three cheeses, for I knew what was coming, and knew also that justice not only had to be done, but had to be manifestly seen to be done, which also accounted for the fact that I confined myself, when the desserts appeared, to some strawberries, some Chinese gooseberries (you and the Trade Descriptions Act can call them Kiwifruit if you like, but I shall go on addressing them by the name under which I first met them) and a vanilla ice.

And then, to finish, the grandest of all the *grands spécialités* of that beloved *maison*: the *marjolaine*, a gateau that looks like a brick and melts in the mouth like spun sugar, its quality never diminished by the twentieth part of a hair's breadth in the 25 years I have been going there.

I had been drinking Sancerre right up to the chicken, with which I planned to drink a half-bottle of 1970 Montrose, but there were no halves left, and—true to my policy of moderation at table—I felt that a whole bottle at that point might be overdoing things. So I accepted the suggestion of a wine I had never even heard of, with a name—Couvent des Jacobins—like a donnish joke. You couldn't mistake it for a *grand cru*, of course, but it was full of character, and the half-bottle was just enough for the chicken and the cheese.

I took my coffee outside in the sunshine, and did not think of the prigs at all, though I raised my *armagnac* to the Professor. But I didn't feel like much dinner that night, either.

LONDON DIARY

Please someone, come and take a shine to me

Where have all the window cleaners gone? It is four years since an eager washer with ladder and chamois called at my house, promising to return every month to keep the daylight flowing in. I have not seen him or any of his like since, and I know I am not alone in finding them a remarkably elusive brotherhood of men.

You would think that in these times of high unemployment and the wholesale shedding of factory jobs, a window cleaning ground would be the ideal business for a redundant man to start up. Minimal capital will provide you with ladder, leathers and a bicycle, and a plastic bucket costs only a fraction of the quantity of Best London bitter it will hold. So where are they all?

I know where one has gone. Jim Cook, who works for a London office window cleaning firm, is in New York this week cleaning windows of the Empire State Building, hanging by a mere canvas belt at a terrifying height above Fifth Avenue. Cook won the doubtful expenses-paid privilege by entering a competition on the label of a vodka bottle. I can only think he demolished most of the contents before setting down which particular dream he would like to come true.

Cook, who used to clean the topmost windows of the Post Office Tower before they closed the restaurant, told me he would not care to be a self-employed domestic window cleaner in England. People do not want their windows cleaned when it is raining, which it does a great deal, so there is money to be made only in fine weather.

And householders never seem to be in when the window cleaner calls. The trouble and strife of trying to collect the money afterwards, according to Cook, tends to negate all the attractions of the job, like freedom, fresh air and all those other little bonuses that George Formby used to sing about.

Milkmen, as I reported the other day, have the same problems, which is one reason why doorstep milk deliveries are on the decline in some areas.

Meanwhile I have to do the windows myself, enduring white knuckles, vertigo, paralysing fear and greasy streaks—and that is only on the ground floor. I wish someone down my way would start up one of those small businesses which Mrs Thatcher seems to believe are the answer to industrial redundancy. It would provide work, and save me from a broken neck.

Great escapist

I detect a considerable revival of interest in the works of Dornford Yates, the mannered, witty escapist novelist who is usually associated with the twenties but who in fact died only in 1960.

Penguin plan to reissue three of the Berry and Co novels this summer, and BBC Television is considering another dramatized series. Six of the original Yates titles are still in print, and continue to sell well.

But the best news for Yates enthusiasts is that the first thorough biography of this shadowy and often maligned figure is to appear next year. The book, by Jack Smithers, was to have been published by Cassell, but fell victim to that house's recent decision to abandon almost its entire general publishing list.

The manuscript has been rescued by Hodder and Stoughton, who hope to publish it next February.

Little is known about Yates, except that he was really a barrister named C. W. Mercer, lived in France until chased out by the Germans in 1940, and spent most of the rest of his life in Rhodesia, where he was commissioned in the army. He wrote his first short story in 1911 and maintained a substantial output until two years before his death.

"Yates still has a tremendous public", Smithers told me. "His style is very Harrow-and-Oxford, Shakespeare-and-water, but he wrote excellent, if pedantic, English, and he was a thundering good storyteller." Smithers has tracked down many of Yates's close associates, including his bank manager; by coincidence Smithers's daughter was born in Yates's former house at Walmer, Kent, now a nursing home.



"Nigel says that in time they'll be able to detect race riots from outer space."

Hidden plot

Wild woodland 15 minutes' walk from King's Cross station? Well, something like it, anyway, has come to light after lying hidden for years.

The triangular plot of just under an acre near Thornhill Square, N1, has been left undisturbed and untended since it fell into neglect as an ornamental garden soon after its enclosure in the 1850s. There is no public access into it, and the only means of entry is through the houses backing on to it.

It has mature chesnut, lime, ash and plane; elm went with the disease. There are saplings, scrub and undergrowth, and fewer broken bottles, old bedsteads and tips of rubble than you would expect. Jays have been sighted, and it is a haunt of Barnsbury's owls.

The people whose houses back on to it have never really had the right to enter it, and they don't much, though they kept chickens there during the war. Islington council bought it in 1973 for purposes now abandoned, and is now considering its sale for private housing. The surrounding residents, unhappy at the prospect, have formed a Barnsbury Wood Cooperative for its preservation.

They make the rather grand claim that it is "an established but neglected ecological park". The word "ecology" is a weapon of modern manufacture much employed in the warfare of planning controls. It means in this case that the schoolchildren of Islington would not have to go all the way to Highgate cemetery to be shown what nature is like if left to itself.

Flying on a Pan-American Boeing 747 last week, I was disturbed by an advertising slogan on the inside of the aircraft door, just above the emergency escape chute container, which declared cheerfully: "Say hello to a brand new world"

Pray, sirs...

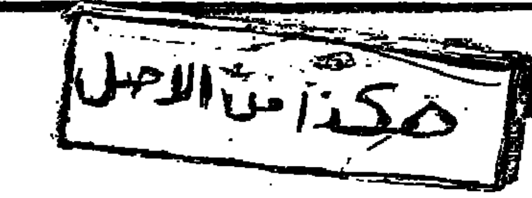
Representatives of the Jewish community, in their first formal discussion with the Church of England, have complained that the new Anglican Alternative Service Book contains more than a hint of antisemitism. It comes in the third Collect for use on Good Friday, which seeks God's mercy on the Jews and asks that they be cured of "ignorance, hardness of heart, and contempt for your word".

Canon Peter Schneider, an Anglican participant in the meeting, is now asking for it to be withdrawn in favour of something that cannot give offence.

The Roman Catholic Church agreed several years ago to rid its public prayers, particularly those on Good Friday, of such phrases as "the perfidious Jews". It is all the more surprising, therefore, that this Anglican prayer got into the new book without being challenged. It may be explained by the fact that Jewish-Anglican relations have only just been put on a formal basis, amidst, I may say, much goodwill.

The French never lose their sense of chic, not even at the security check at Charles de Gaulle airport, Paris. A colleague watched a woman passenger present herself for weapon screening, wearing a jaunty hat held at its angle by a huge and potentially lethal hatpin, which was regarded suspiciously by the guards. "Mais vous comprenez", she murmured sweetly, "pour le chapeau il faut absolument. . ." She was whisked through with adoring smiles of understanding, fully equipped to open whelks or stab the entire crew in the back.

Alan Hamilton



TIMES PAST THE TIMES
Box 7, 200 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8EZ. Telephone : 01-837 1234

‧DDLE EAST PRIORITIES

‧ow pace at which Mr ‧'s Administration is for- ‧g its foreign policies is ‧ing in so far as it allows ‧ting against reality the ‧simple ideas which it ‧ated during the election ‧gn. Mr Haig found on his ‧the Middle East how ‧ry this process is. He ‧ith the hope of persuad- ‧ple that the Soviet threat ‧e important than the ‧raeli dispute and that the ‧ssue should give way to ‧ater. He was also anxious ‧ad the message that the ‧States is now ready, in ‧ words, "to reassert its ‧responsibilities and its ‧l responsibilities". He ‧with mixed results and ‧pport for his main thesis. ‧e fair, Mr Haig has a ‧understanding than some ‧more hard-line figures in ‧ministration of the Arab ‧concern about the ‧ian question. During his ‧ went out of his way to ‧that the security of the ‧d the search for a settle- ‧on the West Bank are ‧tor, in his own inimitable ‧e, "mutually reinforce- ‧He also showed sensi- ‧n the wariness of Arab ‧ns to the idea of a western ‧y presence in the area. ‧heless, no amount of ‧tic skill could conceal ‧areas of disagreement ‧n the United States and ‧to the Middle East ‧s.

‧rael he was only partially ‧ful in calming fears ‧Mr Reagan's willingness to ‧Saudi Arabia with five ‧S (Airborne Warning and ‧Systems) and with offen- ‧weapons for the F-15 fighters it received from President Carter. He told the Israelis that he would ensure they retained a "qualitative edge" over the Arab states in military power, and he pleased them by calling Israel an ally, but he could not entirely persuade them that weapons intended for use against the Soviet Union or its surrogates might not be turned against Israel.

Nor did he get across his message in Jordan, where the Foreign Minister publicly contradicted his claim that there had been a convergence of views and re-emphasized that Jordan still believes that Israel, not the Soviet Union, is the main threat. King Husain also said yet again that Jordan would not join the Camp David peace process, or any successor to it, and is not interested in any talks in which the PLO does not represent the Palestinian people. His public attitude could change if the Labour Party comes to power after the June elections in Israel and brings in new policies towards the West Bank, but there is unlikely to be any fundamental shift in Arab support for the PLO, no matter how great the Soviet threat. Indeed, it is the view of moderate Arabs that nothing gives the Soviet Union more help in the area than America's refusal to countenance a role for the PLO in the peace process.

In London attempts were made to paper over differences on this point, and there does in fact appear to be somewhat more American understanding for the European initiative than there was, thanks partly to the persuasive powers of Lord Carrington. This will be helpful when Mrs Thatcher is in the Gulf region next week. Nevertheless, the fact remains that the policy of the United States in its present inchoate stage is based on assumptions which are not shared either by its European allies or by the principal states in the region. Even President Sadat, who speaks approvingly of the United States "resuming its role as the first super power responsible for peace all over the world" is somewhat less than eager to provide bases from which that super power could exercise its role in the Middle East.

The basic lesson for Mr Reagan's Administration is that it cannot pursue effective regional policies without sufficient support from the states of that region. For most of these states a settlement of the Arab-Israeli dispute with Palestinian participation is either more important than the Soviet threat or a precondition for meeting that threat effectively. The idea that the problem could be solved by reversing priorities and trying to settle the Palestinian question on the coat tails of an agreement on Middle East security is an interesting product of Washington thinking but is largely unconnected to Middle East realities.

This does not mean it has to be abandoned altogether. It may help to remind the Middle East from time to time that it does face wider threats which at some point could make its preoccupation with internal strife seem a dangerous luxury, but the United States will not get the common front it seeks unless it is seen to be helping with the problems which most preoccupy those it would like to have as allies.

‧UEST ON BRIXTON

‧me Secretary has acted ‧in appointing an official ‧into the Brixton riots. ‧lence there has been on ‧requiring the Government ‧y evidence of its concern ‧official words of shock ‧mpathy. No matter how ‧lt, these by themselves ‧nevitably seem little more ‧formal response. There ‧e action. Yet to be effec- ‧ction needs to be based ‧areful examination of the ‧stances. In asking Lord ‧m to undertake the in- ‧Mr Whitelaw has taken the ‧ossible course to ensure ‧his examination will be ‧gh and fair. Those are the ‧es that have characterized ‧is Scarman reports, ‧lly those on the distur- ‧in Northern Ireland in ‧and the disorders in ‧'s Red Lion Square in

‧Home Secretary has ‧to set up the inquiry ‧section thirty-two of the ‧Act 1964. This specifies ‧a inquiry may be held ‧ny matter connected with ‧icing of any area". It is ‧ant that Lord Scarman ‧interpret this phrase ‧. He will need to begin ‧examination of the events in Brixton this weekend. Who was immediately to blame for the outbreak of violence? Was there any abuse of power or tactical mistake on the part of the police? Or can evidence be found to support the allegation that troublemakers from outside the area deliberately provoked or exploited the disturbance?

It is important that these facts should be known, but the inquiry must not stop there. It is also necessary to discover whether any broad general conclusions can be drawn for the conduct of policing in areas with large minority communities. For this it would be relevant if Lord Scarman were to call witnesses from other parts of Britain, including Bristol, where there was the serious riot in the St Paul's neighbourhood last year, and from Handsworth, in Birmingham, where they managed things rather better.

These first two parts of the inquiry are connected directly with policing in the Brixton area, though Lord Scarman's findings in the second field would be relevant to other areas of Britain as well. But he also needs to go further and consider factors that are indirectly related to such policing problems. It is not necessary for him to go so far as to provide a social treatise on our times. To ask for that would be absurd. But anyone looking at the pattern of racial violence in Britain in recent years—in west, north and east as well as south London, in Bristol, and in other provincial towns and cities where so far it has smouldered rather than exploded—must recognize that more is involved than technical problems of police-immigrant relations. The underlying conditions that make it so difficult to conduct such relations harmoniously must also be examined, in so far as Lord Scarman is able to draw pertinent conclusions and make practical recommendations.

There is no reason why he should be restrained from doing so by his terms of reference. These are matters "connected with the policing" of Brixton as well as other areas. But he might feel restrained by considerations of time. He has been asked to report urgently, and it would be tragic if other riots were to occur before he was able to do so. He might be wise therefore to present an interim report on the first, or possibly the first two aspects of his inquiry. But it would be a wasted opportunity if he were to ignore the third.

‧Y ARE THEY FRIGHTENED OF BALLOTS?

‧Employment Act became ‧t summer, yet so far there ‧een little to show for its ‧on the statute book. The ‧r of industrial disputes of ‧nd is so small at present ‧flurry of cases is hardly ‧expected—nor would it ‧een very helpful if the Act ‧arted its life in a firework ‧y of litigation.

‧aspect of the slow start ‧rticularly disappointing— ‧te of the section of the Act ‧g public funds available ‧nion ballots. So far only ‧bodies have made formal ‧ation to the certification ‧r for assistance under the ‧and all three have been ‧ed. The reasons for this are ‧et clear, and obviously the ‧ication officer has to satisfy ‧elf as to the relevance and ‧dentiality of ballots put for- ‧d for subsidy. But it is not ‧tly a flying start. Nor are the ‧e organizations concerned— ‧Royal College of Nursing, the ‧sh Medical Association and ‧Guinness Brewery and ‧Association (UK)—unions ‧essed of clout and sway in ‧counsels of the TUC. Only ‧such union has as yet ‧icly expressed a desire to ‧advantage of the Govern- ‧t's offer, the Amalgamated ‧n of Engineering Workers; ‧that will not make a formal approach until its national committee has endorsed the plan later this year.

Several other unions are known to be privately interested, while preferring to let the AUEW lead the way in flouting the TUC's official policy of wholesale rejection of the Act. As the Isle of Grain dispute showed, the AUEW is too powerful a union, and too confident in the support of members expensively balloted in almost incessant union elections, to be easily stared down by the TUC on an issue where its members' interests are seriously engaged.

Balloting is the weak spot in the TUC campaign, both because a number of unions are strongly tempted to break ranks if they can, and because the case against this part of the Act is plainly a shoddy one. The official justification for the ban is that accepting subsidy may compromise the independence of the union. It is an argument difficult to sustain while the movement continues to enjoy the advantages of friendly society status and of state assistance towards its educational activities. Some of the mooted proposals for compulsory balloting might have threatened internal union authority, but no threat of this kind is raised by voluntary ballots undertaken by properly constituted unions.

The real force behind the opposition towards ballots comes from the fears of many union leaders, great and small, that elections would become more difficult to manipulate. With some exceptions, the movement today is very imperfect in its democratic structure. This is to the advantage of those able to sway the emotions of a mass meeting, or to draw out branch discussions until their opponents have grown tired and gone home. Votes on industrial action or the election of officers are often decided on a 10 per cent poll at meetings, and on 40 per cent or more in ballots.

Balloting is not in itself a guarantee either of moderation or of real democracy: Mr Moss Evans, for instance, was elected once by ballot of his vast union, and need never stand for election again till he retires; the seamen's strike showed how rules for a ballot can be got round; while the Government's recent haste to avoid a miners' ballot paid tribute to the solidarity in dispute that only a ballot can ensure. But balloting is still the precondition for real democracy, and as the power of the movement grows, the more important it becomes that its power should be exercised democratically, and seen to be so.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Civil Service strike and defence

From Mr K. M. Delaney

Sir, Sir Philip Watson's letter today (April 10) recommends dismissal of recalcitrant civil servants for not performing their contractual liabilities.

I have always understood that a contract imposes obligations on all those who are party to it. In this case, the Government's arbitrary breach of its obligations under established pay machinery surely renders any such contract void, to say the least.

Furthermore, in other contractual spheres a party which considers itself aggrieved would have recourse to law or some other form of arbitration. The Government is adamantly denying this right to the Civil Service unions. How anyone can defend the immorality of the position is beyond me.

All the flag-waving and moral indignation now affecting your leading articles and correspondence columns cannot disguise the fact that it was the employer that precipitated this particular industrial campaign, not the employees.

Yours faithfully,
K. M. DELANEY,
2 Darren Court,
Oakdale,
Blackwood,
Gwent.

From Mr Herb Greer

Sir, The reports about the supposed "coup attempt" in 1968 have been fascinating. What word will you apply to the attempt by a minority pressure group (the Civil Service unions) to sabotage government operations—not just in pursuit of money, but in an open attempt to force the executive to act according to the diktat of this minority group, against the public interest?

If this is not a real "coup attempt" it would be very interesting to know what you propose to call it, and why the public tolerates it with an apparently bland indifference.

Yours,
HERB GREER,
Film Rights Ltd,
113-117 Wardour Street, W1.
April 10.

From Mr Max Nicholson

Sir, While you rightly apply the terms "bully" and "cant" to the tactics now adopted in the Civil Service strike for higher pay than the private sector, do you not think it time to grapple with the cause?

As I showed in my book, The System—The Misgovernment of Modern Britain, the whole Civil Service set-up, dating from 1855, is obsolete, inefficient and extravagant, to which it now adds sabotaging Britain's defence and abusing its monopoly to harass countless citizens on their lawful occasions.

As the present Government is patently unable to honour its mandate from the electorate in face of Yes, Minister obstruction, and thus to reduce taxes and inflation and cut public sector borrowing, may I urge the adoption of a simple and popular remedy?

This would be to enact a New Public Service Act, terminating the existing Civil Service from the earliest practicable date (with proper regard to existing legal rights), and starting a fresh service under a new Public Service Commission equivalent to a select committee of Parliament. It would be manned by a new, progressively better qualified profession of public administration, with only a core of permanently engaged staff, the remainder being on short-term contracts or on secondment from the universities, business and elsewhere, with preference for reengaging existing civil servants having a record of efficient and loyal fulfilment of their duties. The total should be, say, at least 250,000 less than that now existing, which would be ample for all essential needs.

As a first step, might not those members of Parliament who hope that they may persuade the disillusioned public to reelect them show their own sense of responsibility by tabling a well backed motion of no-confidence in the Civil Service, and a demand for its replacement by something more modern, less inefficient and less irresponsible?

Yours faithfully,
MAX NICHOLSON,
The Athenaeum,
Pall Mall, SW1.
April 10.

From Captain J. A. R. Swainson, RN

Sir, The Government can surely foil the civil servant anarchists at Faslane by sailing HMS Resolution to Norfolk Navy Yard, Virginia, for her vital maintenance.

I hope, too, that the Government will take early steps to de-civilianize the tasks necessary to keep Resolution on station in defence of the realm. This must be their bounden duty as our role in the Atlantic alliance is priority one.

Yours faithfully,
J. A. R. SWAINSON,
48 Springhead,
Tunbridge Wells,
Kent.
April 10

From Mr David Harington

Sir, Whilst a customs officer or immigration official is working normally he has the right to stop me, examine my passport, look for contraband, and so on. As soon as he begins some action for his own ends, beyond his normal work, he loses that right and becomes a private individual who is simply obstructing me.

I am a British citizen, I do not smuggle, and I have the right to leave and enter this country freely. I hope I shall have the protection of the police when I ignore the attempts of officials to obstruct me. And, if others ignore the officials, too, we shall have no delays at airports this Easter.

Yours etc.
DAVID HARINGTON,
40 Leighton Road, NW5.
April 12.

Election as MP of IRA prisoner

From Miss Jill MacMahon

Sir, Whilst reading your coverage of IRA hunger striker Mr Robert Sands's stand for election, it occurred to me that his candidature emphasizes a paradox in the law; namely, that although a convicted person may not, whilst detained in a penal institution, vote in an election, he may yet stand as a candidate in one.

Should our statute books continue to show our legal system to have such an asinine face?

Yours faithfully,
JILL MacMAHON,
Maravat,
15 Croft Avenue,
West Wickham,
Kent.
April 9.

From Sir Hugh Fraser, MP for Stafford and Stone (Conservative)

Sir, I hope the House of Commons will keep it cool over the Fermanagh and South Tyrone election (report, April 11) and neither pardon the victor nor expunge his name from the roll of elected MPs.

The people of the constituency have a law and by that law they have chosen. No electoral regulation has seemingly been broken. By law, too, the victor serves a criminal sentence not subject to alteration.

If our leaders are in shock and seek for precedents at this season, none is better than the good book itself. The Procurator of Judea, for understandable reasons, has always been underestimated as an administrator. Neither dreams nor his wife nor curiosity nor presentiments of the future deflected him from his Roman duty, which was to judge within customary law the course least likely to cause a tumult among the people.

The people's choice, however organized, was Barabbas. Pilate accepted it: as a governor rightly. It was as the Gospel says "of necessity". If necessity, one hopes that the leaders of the parties in the House of Commons will keep their heads and the law today.

Yours faithfully,
HUGH FRASER,
House of Commons, SW1.

From the Reverend M. J. Peel

Sir, Is it not an outrage to all decent citizens of the United Kingdom that, in announcing the result of the by-election, the returning officer described the winning candidate officially as a "political prisoner"?

The man elected is a convicted felon. His status is that of all who are in prison for breaking the laws of this realm. He is not there for his political views but for what he has done in violating the law. He cannot be a "political prisoner".

Surely the returning officer must have known this. Should he not have insisted, therefore, that the candidate describe himself accurately as a prisoner, detained at her Majesty's pleasure, and refused to have accepted a form of words which, when used at the declaration of the poll, could not fail to give the IRA another boost to its credibility?

I remain, yours faithfully,
MICHAEL PEEL,
The Rectory,
Iver Heath,
Iver,
Buckinghamshire.
April 11.

From Mrs K. F. Archbold-George

Sir, Surely Sands's election is an embarrassment for democracy rather than just for the Government?

In fact, it seems as though democracy has some sort of in-built death wish. Why else should it so arrange itself that a man of blood, a convicted member of that infantile group which believes it is entitled to grasp power and hold power by denying innocent people the right to live, can be elected to that body of people which makes laws for all of us to obey?

Should a democracy be ruled by bloodthirsty lovers of street fighting, sniping from behind walls, bombing and running away to force the lovers of civilized order to play hide and seek with them? What is easier or more cowardly than destruction, whether of the self or unsuspecting innocents?

Yours faithfully,
K. F. ARCHBOLD-GEORGE,
351 Muswell Hill Broadway, N10.
April 12.

Peacetime conscription

From Mr R. A. Hodgkin

Sir, It is beginning to seem desirable, and it may eventually become essential, that all citizens should contribute, not only in taxes but increasingly in service, to the cost of a civilized society in the twenty-first century. Compulsion might be necessary, or strong inducements such as the availability of grants for tertiary education. (The former, pace Mr Wood (April 10) is not slavery; and the latter is not bribery.) Service opportunities would be diversified and, no doubt, some military options would be available.

But a more crucial problem remains: how could the general tendency of such a movement remain non-totalitarian? Only, I suggest, if powerful bodies such as the churches, major charities (and the Humanist Society), enlightened industries and enlightened labour organizations were to take a lead now.

There would be many possibilities for useful, disciplined, challenging service, but consider just one: if primary education were to fulfil its great promise something like three times the present teacher power would be needed. Most of this could be provided by lightly trained auxiliaries, working under highly trained professionals. The latter, instead of being overstretched as at present, would gain more scope and influence. "Lightly trained" might mean a six-month priming course in a college of education.

Would it be cost-effective? Hard to tell. But what would be the cost advantage of having, say, 95 per cent of our 12-year-old population able to use language well and competent in basic maths and music? Could not this be a policy for our centre parties?

Yours sincerely,
ROBIN A. HODGKIN,
Bareppa House,
Nr Falmouth,
Cornwall.
April 11.

Investment for recovery

From Sir Charles Villiers

Sir, Your leader, "The high road to recovery", April 10, should have considered investment levels in other countries. What stands out a mile is not Southend Pier, but the colossal programmes in Japan and West Germany, which make our efforts to date absolutely puny.

The United Kingdom savings rate is 15 per cent of disposable income, which is high and there is lots of money around (more for borrowers than for ordinary capital seekers). What we lack are investment programmes, whether for the "Chunnel", electrification of railways, energy saving, information technology, machine tools, microprocessors or the myriad needs of small business. The latter, given intelligible encouragement, could add several percentage points to gross national product, greatly increase innovations and employ another million people in just a few years.

But little of this will happen until we can see a route to a reasonable return at the end of the day, of which a fair amount can stick with those who earned it, whatever government is in office. This route is still hard to see, but visibility is improving.

We are in fact now on the approach road, not on the high road to recovery. We should not let economists sidetrack us with threats of an investment trap. Better occasionally to be caught by the heels than to be out of mainstream modern industry, which is our certain fate unless literally tens of thousands of new investments are begun quite soon. These should be aimed at more and better of whatever it is, at competitive cost in the sunrise rather than the sunset industries.

Erhard encouraged it to happen in Germany, Pompidou made a start in France, but it has not yet taken off in postwar Britain. There has to be a first time . . . surely

Sincerely,
CHARLES VILLIERS,
Chairman,
BSC (Industry) Ltd,
42 Grosvenor Gardens, SW1.
April 11.

Auchinleck's tactics

From Colonel Lord Clifford of Chudleigh

Sir, As at the time a mere major and commanding, due to deaths and wounds, the remnants of the support group to 22nd Armoured Brigade at the battle of the "Devil's Cauldron" (June 5/6, 1942) I make bold to say that the consensus of opinion, discussed ad nauseam as PoWs, was that the generals inviting criticism were Richie and Messervy. Auchinleck and Lumsden were never faulted.

In an earlier prewar existence as a subaltern in northern India I recollect the awe in which Auchinleck was then held as the only general who could give a complete divisional commander's orders without using a note.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,
CLIFFORD,
House of Lords.

Charities and the law

From the General Secretary of the South Place Ethical Society

Sir, It is important to get the facts right. The South Place Ethical Society, founded in 1793 and descended from a Unitarian Church, was recognized as a charity last summer as the result of an appeal to the High Court. The grounds were not, as Mr Hubert Picarda (April 13) thinks, "because of its tendency to moral improvement", nor as Dr Stopes-Roe (April 13) thinks "as an organization cultivating Humanism".

Mr Justice Dillon ruled that the society's objects and record met the requirements of two of the categories of charity defined by Lord Macnaghten in Pemsel's case (1891), viz. "the advancement of education" and "the benefit of the community".

It was our hope to be recognized as a charity on religious grounds, in that one of our two main objects is "the cultivation of a rational religious sentiment". The judge himself summarized that case in the words: "such qualities as truth, love and beauty are sacred and the advancement of such belief is the advancement of religion." However, he declined to accept this: "Religion, as I see it, is concerned with man's relation to God, and ethics are concerned with man's relation to man."

Nevertheless we were happy that justice was done, but there is one aspect of the matter that none of your correspondents has remarked upon. It took us 16 difficult and expensive years to bring the matter to court. There is surely an anomaly here. We presented the Charity Commissioners with a problem on which they felt they needed a court ruling. One cannot quarrel with that, but as things stand there is no appeal procedure between the Charity Commissioners and the Court of Chancery.

Might not the Law Commissioners be asked to look at that problem and suggest a procedure to deal with it without opening any floodgate for irresponsible appeals?

The sheer cost of justice is today threatening justice itself.

Yours faithfully,
PETER CADOGAN,
South Place Ethical Society,
Conway Hall,
25 Red Lion Square WC1.

From the Headmaster of Clifton College, Bristol

Sir, Dr Spencer's attempt (April 10) to link the public schools with the Moonies was a merry jest, though a mischievous one. He ignores, however, one important difference—apart from the obvious fact that the schools' charitable status derives from their educational, not their religious function.

In order to minimize the risks of "brainwashing", public schools make elaborate arrangements to return children to their families for periods ranging from a few days to a couple of months at regular intervals throughout the year. And I have not yet heard of any parents who have had to resort to the use of "snatch parties" in order to rescue their children from the clutches of over-possessive headmasters or headmistresses.

Yours faithfully,
STUART ANDREWS,
Clifton College, Bristol.

Nationality proposals

From Mrs I. P. Hewitt

Sir, Mr John Matthews in his letter (March 27) about the nationality proposals points out the "retroactive nature" of the measure dealing with the right to transmit citizenship—the fact that children of Britons by descent will not automatically qualify for British citizenship if born abroad, including many born abroad before the Bill becomes law.

I would like to point out that one aspect of the current Immigration Rules also has such a "retroactive effect". This concerns daughters born abroad to British parents: such girls, most of whom come from Asian communities, are denied the right to marry a non-British man and live with him in the United Kingdom, a right enjoyed by their male counterparts. Most of the girls affected were born before the Immigration Rules were changed to prevent the entry of male fiancés to the United Kingdom, to marry girls in this category.

The British legal tradition hitherto has tended to steer clear of being retroactive, even in the case of budgetary measures to close tax loopholes, but the recent tax proposed on profits made by banks during the past year, and the examples relating to nationality and immigration show a dangerous change away from that tradition.

The Minister of State at the Home Office, Mr Timothy Raison, was reported to have said during the Nationality Bill's committee stage (on March 17, reported in The Times of March 18) that the Government was at an early stage of considering what changes would be necessary to the Immigration Rules following the passage of the Bill. I would like to remind him that reinstatement of the marriage rights of British girls born abroad is called for to bring the rules in line with the very commendable sex equality feature of the Nationality Bill.

Yours faithfully,
I. P. HEWITT, Secretary,
UK Asian Women's Conference,
5 More Close,
Purley,
Surrey.

Moving Highgate graves

From Mr R. S. Nichols

Sir, I would like to suggest that the graves and memorials of the many notable people buried in Highgate Cemetery be removed to one area, which is always open to the public, as for example Bunhill Fields, so that the public may visit and pay their respects to them.

I wonder how many people who gaze at the massive head of Marx also know that the far greater benefactor to mankind, whose work has not resulted in the death of anyone, except by negligence, or the due process of law, is also buried there —namely Michael Faraday.

Yours faithfully,
R. S. NICHOLS, Chairman,
Mill Hill and Hendon Historical Society,
29 Maxwelton Avenue,
Mill Hill, NW7.
April 10.

New life for film making

From Lord Brabourne and Mr David Puttnam

Sir, We have read with interest the letter (April 10) signed by a number of distinguished film makers and we both support wholeheartedly much of what was said in that letter.

In paragraph two, the letter advocates "the establishment within a single ministry of a new statutory body". We are both members of the Interim Action Committee on the Future of the Film Industry. This committee has been pressing for some time for the formation of a British Film Authority whose function, among other things, would be to examine the existing legislation affecting film and television and be the principal adviser to the Government on all matters relating in the audio-visual entertainment industry, as suggested in the letter.

We hope very much that this new initiative by so many distinguished film makers will help to persuade the Government of the urgent necessity for the formation of a British Film Authority.

Yours faithfully,
BRABOURNE,
DAVID PUTTNAM,
41 Montpelier Walk, SW7.

Mark of the beast

From Mr K. J. Ballinger

Sir, I was saddened to read (report, April 9) that the Royal Automobile Club refused to tow Mr John Dodd's car, known as The Beast, because it was "overweight". This would appear to be a further decline of the spirit that once made this nation, and its motoring organizations, great.

Yours faithfully,
K. J. BALLINGER,
9 Trent Court,
New Wanstead, E11.
April 9.

From Wing Commander J. L. Nunn, RAF (retd)

Sir, Is the board of Rolls-Royce so young that it cannot remember the debt we all owe to the Merlin engine? Surely Mr Dodd should be allowed not only to be proud of the fact that he sits behind one when he drives, but also to acknowledge the fact.

Yours faithfully,
J. L. NUNN,
Yew Tree Cottage,
East Street,
Hambledon,
Portsmouth.

‧and brain death

‧n Mr J. M. K. Spalding

‧The Director General of the ‧states (April 10) of the ‧orama death programmes: "The ‧inal programme aroused concern ‧he medical world: that concern ‧was met by the second pro- ‧mme." Such an astonishing view ‧the second programme can only ‧supported by someone dependent ‧BBC TV for his information.

‧n the second programme the ‧'s case depended on two cases ‧ged by one of Panorama's wit- ‧ses to demonstrate that the ‧tish criteria of brain death were ‧dequate. That witness has now ‧licly admitted that he cannot ‧duce these cases. The bottom ‧refore falls out of Panorama's ‧e.

Newspapers (including The Times) recognized the importance of the admission and reported it. BBC TV news apparently did not. Lacking further explanation from the BBC the public may conclude that the BBC TV was trying to cover up for the Panorama team.

Yours faithfully,
J. M. K. SPALDING,
Shotover Cleve,
Headington,
Oxford.
April 10.

Right to work

From Mrs Paul Hayter

Sir, Bernard Levin's admirable article (April 8) debunking the myth of the "right to work" misses a crucial point which will only be comprehensible to those lucky enough to have received some teaching in the elements of grammar.

The fact is that the "right to work" (as a verb) has become confused with the "right to work" (as a noun). The former right I suspect we would all defend; the latter, to work in the sense of "a job", is a nonsense, as Bernard Levin rightly points out.

It is as though the "right to marry" had been translated into the "right to a marriage": the former an abstract right in principle, the latter specific and dependent upon someone else being willing.

Yours faithfully,
DEBORAH HAYTER,
28 Patshull Road NW5.
April 9.

The rebels out to win with guns and a prayer

Trevor Fishlock, in the first of three articles on the guerrilla war in Afghanistan, reports from inside the Mujahidin stronghold of Torabora

The blackened rubble of Torabora war camp bears witness to its importance as a Mujahidin base. Russian gunships have bombed and rocketed it many times; the doctor is still *swabbing stinging iodine on* shrapnel gashes after the last raid, but the guerrillas are grinning and their black and white flag flies jauntily, a sort of thumbed nose. The Russians have failed to blast them from *their mountain crevices and* Mujahidin confidence, vigour and capability are growing.

After 12 days in Afghanistan, including three among the 200 Mujahidin lodged in this hideout above the roaring Agam river, I left with a clear impression of a guerrilla force increasingly well organized, armed and supplied.

In this area at least the traditional picture of yelling motley bands of wild and ill-disciplined tribesmen is no longer accurate. Fierceness, ruthlessness and devotion to fighting remain their uneroded *stock in trade. But to these* qualities have been grafted a strong command structure and a sense of order and purpose.

The Mujahidin in Nangahar province have not only consolidated—they have also extended *their area of control by driving* government sympathizers out. They believe they are getting the enemy's measure and their evident good morale derives from the feeling that strength is growing in their sinews.

Torabora is the headquarters of one of the new breed of mountain chiefs of Afghanistan, Abdul Khayum is a thoughtful and courteous former geography teacher, aged 30, who has exchanged his Jalalabad *classroom for this 2,000ft eyrie,* and his books for bandoliers, a Soviet Kalashnikov automatic rifle and a belt with a couple of full 30-round magazines stuck in it.

Abdul Khayum is a province commander. From Torabora he plans and directs attacks on Russian and Afghan army positions throughout Nangahar province, and especially in the city of Jalalabad, 32 miles to the north, the scene of constant fighting.

There are four major commanders under him, and each of these heads about a dozen groups of about 30 men who have their own sub-commanders.

The *relationship between* commanders and men is easy and informal, but the leaders have genuine authority. Many of them are former teachers and count former students among their men.

A typical group going out on a raid has, as I saw, about 15 Kalashnikovs, a light machine gun on a bipod, an assortment of *rifles, full ammunition* pouches and belts, and one or two Soviet shoulder-held rocket-propelled grenade launchers, with youths, like powder monkeys, carrying the grenades.

All the men here are Nan*gahar men, fighting on their* home ground and for it. They spend most of their time in the province and when they go to Pakistan it is usually to visit their families who are refugees.

Abdul Khayum is a prudent man. "This is going to be a long war and we have to concentrate on building our reserves of weapons and ammunition. We need some *means of bringing* down the helicopters, more bullets and more medical supplies. These things will come if we are patient. In 15 months since the Russians came we have grown much stronger and *we have the advantage of fighting* on our own soil. We will grow still stronger."



Mujahidin guerrillas with a twin-barrelled 20 millimetre cannon carried in pieces to their camp.

His prime means of waging war is to harass government troops and installations by commando raids, and to ambush lorries and troop carriers. The Mujahidin always try to retrieve weapons and ammunition during their attacks.

"*The hope in the long term* is a Kalashnikov for every man", Abdul Khayum said.

The Mujahidin have sympathizers in the demoralized and depleted Aghan army who are conduits for arms, and especi*ally for ammunition. Sometimes* bullets are given, sometimes sold for up to 50 pence a Kalashnikov round. Deserting soldiers frequently give their guns to the Mujahidin before heading for Pakistan, or they simply throw in their lot with the rebels. A number of men showed me their army identity cards.

A few months ago a young Afghan army officer, Naqib Ullah, who had been supplying arms to the Mujahidin, drove out of Jalalabad at the wheel of an armoured troop carrier. It now lies wrecked in a gully *some miles from Torabora, and* the raffish Naqib Ullah, who looks like a young Errol Flynn, is now a Mujahidin group com*mander.*

The guerrillas have no radio system, which is probably to their advantage, and operate without maps; they know their land too well to need them. Abdul Khayum receives re*quests and reports* in writing and sends messengers with his orders.

There are no women in Torabora. It is not a village in the usual sense, but a base where fighting men group, prepare and rest after attacks. Their needs are eminently simple and their monotonous diet consists of flat, hard wheat bread *baked on iron* dishes, a sort of spinach, occasional glutinous rice sprinkled with the juice of bitter oranges, and sometimes the luxury of a potato or an egg. Their most important *requirement* from Jalalabad, apart from ammunition, is green and black tea and the sugar which is their main energy source.

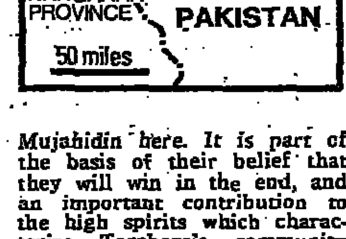
On my way in to Torabora, after a three day march over *the mountains from Pakistan,* the Mujahidin supply volumn I was with, had to skirt a village a few miles down the Agam river because it was being shelled by tanks and pounded by helicopter gunships.

"That is my village", Abdul Khayum said. "My own house and garden was smashed a year ago and my wife and children escaped to Pakistan."

Torabora's location protects it from tank or artillery fire, *but helicopters* can *still* get into the gorge to wreck the stronghold's scattered mud and stone buildings. The guerrillas had three Russian 20 millimetre machine guns sited in the hillsides to fight these attacks. And *a few days ago they installed* two brand new twin barrelled 20 millimetre cannon which they humped up the gorge in pieces.

"They came from Jalalabad", Abdul Khayum said cryptically each of the gun emplacements is manned around the clock. Each has a cave for living and a magazine store, with a rock door, dug into the mountainside.

The development of their fire power, and the swelling of their armoury is a source of considerable pride among the



Mujahidin here. *It is part of* the basis of their belief that they will win in the end, and an important contribution to the high spirits which characterize Torabora's community and the groups I met on the *plains to the north.*

But also important is their faith. The five times a day ritual of prayer *is observed by* the majority of the men. They finger their prayer beads as *lovingly as they stroke their* well cared-for guns. It often seems that their prayers have become an assertion of their will to resist. A young man stripping off his bandolier and laying down his rifle before saying his prayers at sunset said "We pray, we win."

If there had been a third man at Fermanagh . . .

by John Hume, leader of the Social Democratic and Labour Party

The election of a hunger striker in the Maze prison is a pointed reminder of just how deeply the Northern Ireland community is divided. Only a *fraction of the* 30,000 voters who elected him support violence—that has been proved *in election after* election, and poll after poll of public opinion.

A far greater proportion of his vote came from people who are genuinely concerned about the prison problem and who felt that they were voting for a humanitarian solution of it. But the great majority of the votes *came from people* who were voting against Unionism and in support of their Irish identity, as they have done for generations. For them any anti-Unionist candidate is better than a Unionist, regardless of his background or conne*xions. I believe* that in these circumstances Parliament must not expel Mr Robert Sands.

Above all, this election demonstrates how damaging the "first past the post" electoral *system is in Northern Ireland's* circumstances. In finely balanced constituencies like Fermanagh and South Tyrone, Westminster elections give rise to a hue and cry for "unity" candidates. Of its very nature that urge has a polarizing effect on both communities, and drives them to their polar extremes.

Parties of change and movement are *at a disadvantage;* the electorate tends to rally to the candidates who most loudly proclaim allegiance to traditional aspirations; the urge is to maximize the sectarian vote to keep "the other side" out. *All medium term* and long-term considerations are swept aside.

In this election, with Mr Noel Maguire, brother of the previous MP in the field, the Social Democratic and Labour Party would have faced the *electorally unforgivable charge* of handing the seat to the Unionists with the resulting overall damage to the party's permanent standing. Subsequently, and after the close of nominations, Mr Maguire with*drew his candidature* in peculiar and unexplained circumstances leaving Mr Sands alone in the field.

In the Westminster election of February 1974, the sectarian tendency led to a landslide against the power-sharing executive, even though the opinion polls showed that a large majority of the voters favoured the executive.

Proportional representation is vital for all elections in Northern Ireland; otherwise the process of political change will be brought to a halt or even reversed, by periodic tribal con*tests of this kind.*

The stark fact of this election is that no perceptible element among the Catholic population could envisage voting for the British connexion in any circumstances. It is, *however, equally true that no* perceptible element among the Protestant population would be prepared to vote for an anti-Unionist candidate of whatever kind. That fundamental cleavage remains.

On each side of the divide people cling to old aspirations, which basically involve a surrender of identity and aspirations by "the other side". But the politics of conquest are sterile, unrealistic and hopeless. *It is impossible to force people* to be what they are not, or to prevent them being what they are. A way must be found of accommodating both aspirations within a framework which allows people to be what they *are, and which enables them to* cooperate together in government without prejudice to their basic identity.

That has been the policy of the Social Democratic and Labour Party from the begin*ning. We have succeeded in* persuading the great majority of anti-Unionists to follow us, and we have attracted some Protestant support, though minimal.

In PR elections where voters *are released from sectarian* pressures we have maintained *a significant level of support* for our position. We will continue to do so. But ultimately any political party must be able to show its followers some movement, some hope of progress towards achievement of their policies.

The most disturbing aspect of Northern Ireland politics is *that there has been no similar* modification of the Unionist position. If anything, Unionist *leaders have drifted steadily to* the right. Those unionst leaders who attempted to rethink traditional attitudes were quickly dispatched at the polls. Paisleyism *is in the ascendant.*

The attitude of Unionists is natural and inevitable. In the struggles of the early part of this century they won the contest. *The Northern Ireland* state was created for them and they were given control of it. Having chosen sectarianism as the basis of their state they have found themselves trapped by that same sectarianism.

It *is inevitable* that they regard any movement away from the present position as a victory for "the other side". In *present circumstances they* are prisoners of their own history and cannot change. Therefore the circumstances must be changed.

Present political arrangements are the result of a lengthy *struggle* at the beginning of this century to shape relationships between the peoples of these islands. The 1921 *settlement has not* provided lasting stability and it was not meant to be a final settlement. The whole matter of relationships between Ireland and Britain has not been thoroughly or finally worked out. *That is a task requiring* urgent attention and thankfully the sovereign governments in London and Dublin have set *their minds to it* at last.

The process begun by the two Prime Ministers in January *promises a new framework of* relationships within these islands which could transform the context of the Northern Ireland *problem. In those* new circumstances of closer links and cooperation between *the two islands, it will be easier* for Unionist leaders to move out of the trenches without fear of the erosion of their identity.

In creating a new framework we do not have to be bound by any existing or previously existing models. The time is right for courageous and imaginative leadership in London, Dublin and Belfast.

There is a unique relationship between Ireland and Britain. Our history has bound us together with economic, social, cultural and political ties to numerous dimensions. To give institutional expression to that *relationship is not to undermine* the basic interests of the Northern Ireland majority but rather to give them added security.

That new security would change the political circum*stances within Ireland itself* and make possible an end to our age-old conflict and give adequate expression to the statement of Irish identity so forcefully expressed by the majority of the electorate in *Fermanagh and South Tyrone.*

In the meantime, I hope that sounds from London of threats by the *mother of parliaments* to expel a democratically and legally elected member—whatever his views or however un*palatable they are—have no* foundation. Is it the Westminster Parliament who will decide who sits there, or the electorate? In essence they would be saying to the electorate in Fermanagh and South *Tyrone: "Send us someone who* is more to our liking in a new election".

They would find no self respecting democrat in Northern Ireland to participate in such an election. In addition they would give enormous credence to the physical force movement, whose essential argument is that the ballot box is a waste *of time.*

Bernard Levin

A fond pip pip to my priggish friends

I suppose I ought to annoy the food prigs once more before I go. I have been back to Père Bise, and on the same trip I visited the legendary Girardet for the first time, and on top of that discovered Chez Pierre, of which I had never even heard. So if the prigs will kindly finish their baked beans, and my gastronomic and professorial pen friend will pour out a glass of something pleasant and settle down to enjoy himself, you shall hear.

Business took me to Montreux which was in itself a nostalgic journey, for it was the first place I went to on my very first visit abroad, more decades ago than I care to remember. (I can even remember the name of the hotel I stayed at on that occasion: the Bonivard). And just *along the road from Montreux, in a* suburb of Lausanne called Crissier, there stands the restaurant of Frédy Girardet, of whom I have heard many good judges say that it can compare with the best in France: a large claim. You can indeed eat well in *Switzerland, and I often have (at* the Veltliner Keller in Zürich, for instance, the Euler in Basle, and Chesa Veglia in St Moritz), but a comparison with the best in France is another matter, and I have long felt the need to judge for myself.

So I did; but the night before I lunched *chez* Girardet I went into Vevey to try Chez Pierre, which I had found in a little booklet called *La route Suisse des plaisirs de la table* (if the publishers of it, who seem to constitute a kind of club rather like the *organization* of Relais de Campagne restaurants, are reading this, I would be grateful if they would send me an up-to-date copy). There is a brasserie downstairs, and a tiny restaurant up; up I went.

I began with the *foie gras chaud aux raisins,* poached in a lovely truffly sauce which I mopped up with about three-quarters of a loaf of the *wickedly delicious home-baked dark* bread Pierre Béthaz provides. (The pips had not been removed from the grapes. I didn't mind, indeed it was nice to have something which crunched amid the smoothness, but I feel obliged to mention it thus, as *it is the kind of item that particularly* upsets the prigs). Hesitating over the next course, I took M Béthaz's advice and had the *poussin aux morilles,* nor did I regret it, for it was buried beneath a huge mound of the delicious little crinkly mush*rooms, and the bird was as tender* as whipped cream. Three or four cheeses later, I took a mélange of five miniature sorbets: I foolishly forgot to note them, and can only remember the lemon and the passion fruit.

I drank Swiss throughout, of course, a nice crisp Aigle with the *foie gras* and a Dézaley with the bird; I am always pleasantly surprised by Swiss wine, and wish I saw more of it. I went to bed well pleased with life, and reflecting that *with the memory of Chez Pierre* under my belt, I was well equipped in case I was disappointed at Girardet.

O, but I wasn't! It is beautifully and tastefully decorated, and as soon as I sat down I realized why it is necessary *to book there a month in* advance; there is room for only 44 diners. Lucky 44, and lucky I to be one of them, for the meal which followed fully lived up to the most extravagant claims made for M Girardet's cooking. Having done so well with M Béthaz' *foie gras,* I decided to begin with the Girardet version, in which it is poached in wine vinegar with walnut oil added, and to go on with *La côtelette de pigeon aux choux verts,* but the head waiter suggested that I might like to take a demi-portion of the *foie gras* and follow it by another entree. To this wise proposal I naturally assented with alacrity, and settled for lobster, which came with a sauce of langoustines, and slices from a truffle that must have been the size of a football.

The whole proceedings, I should mention, were preceded by a wedge of tarte, a variation on *pissaladière, and what with that and the foie gras* (the vinegar setting off the richness of the meat in a most notable manner) and the lobster (*fresh* as though it had been caught in Lac Léman that very morning) my appetite was quite whetted for the pigeon. It came *wrapped in the inner leaves of the choux vert*—an odd combination on paper, but the vegetable's mildness was a fine foil for the strong meat of the pigeon. I had been drinking Krug as an aperitif, and went on with it up to the pigeon, with which *I drank a good powerful Dôle, also* very suitable for the gamy little bird.

Girardet's cheese trolley is a noble sight, so lavish that it *includes* three Gruyères—*salé, mi-doux* and *doux.* I had the middle one, together with a rich Vacherin, a Tomme Vaudoise, *and a couple of local chèvres,* and by the time I had finished I was seriously doubting whether I could manage more than another couple of courses. Fortunately, only two more were necessary; first, a delicate *millefeuille,* reminiscent in its lightness of the desserts of M Ménager, the *maître-patissier* who *runs* the Hostellerie du Moulin de Maine-Brun at Angoulême, and then Girardet's selection of sorbets, which includes grapefruit and tea — the last so unexpected that for the life of me I could not put the name to the taste, and *had* to ask. The whole meal was perfect, and perfectly-balanced; *vaut le voyage.*

I did not feel like much dinner that night, so I spent the evening thinking about the morrow and Père Bise. The morrow dawned sunny, and got sunnier as I approached; when I arrived, the lake was sparkling, a handsome swan floating majestically *at the edge. Inside, nothing had* changed; Madame's smile was as welcoming as ever, and soon after I had dispatched the *parfait de foie d'oie* I was listening to the sound of the *meunière* butter bubbling on my *omble chevalier*, that rare fish, like the *most delicately pink-fleshed* trout, that is said to be found nowhere but in Lake Geneva and Lake Annecy. That hadn't changed, either, but tarragon being out of season, I couldn't have my usual *poularde braisée a la crème d'estragon;* instead, I had it *aux truffes* (about a hundredweight of them), and readily succumbed to the suggestion of the other half when I had dispatched the *first lot along with some rice* and a lightly-dressed lettuce salad. (Old man Bise used personally to pinch the bosom of every chicken admitted to his kitchen, rejecting *sans phrases* any with even a hint of toughness. I have no doubt the process is still being followed today).

Only three cheeses, for I knew what was coming, and knew also that justice not only had to be done, but had to be manifestly seen to be *done, which also accounted for the* fact that I confined myself, when the desserts appeared, to some strawberries, some Chinese gooseberries (you and the Trade Descriptions Act can call them Kiwifruit if you like, but I shall go on addressing them by the name *under which I first met* them) and a vanilla ice.

And then, to finish, the grandest *of all the grands spécialités of that* beloved *maison;* the *marjolaine,* a gateau that looks like a brick and melts in the mouth like spun sugar, its quality never diminished by the twentieth part of a hair's breadth in *the 25 years I have been going there.*

I had been drinking Sancerre right up to the chicken, with which I plan*ned to drink a half-bottle of* 1970 Montrose, but there were no halves left, and—true to my policy of moderation at table—I felt that a whole bottle at that point might be overdoing things. So I accepted the suggestion of a wine I had never *even heard of, with a name—Couvent* des Jacobins—like a donnish joke. You couldn't mistake it for a *grand cru,* of course, but it was full of character, and the half-bottle was just enough for the chicken and the cheese.

I took my coffee outside in the sunshine, and did not think of the prigs at all, though I raised my *armagnac to the Professor. But I didn't feel* like much dinner that night, either.

LONDON DIARY

Please someone, come and take a shine to me

Where have all the window cleaners gone? It is four years since an eager washer with ladder and chamois called at my house, promising to return every month to keep the daylight flowing in. I have not seen him *or any of* his like since, and I know I am not alone in finding them a remarkably elusive brotherhood of men.

You would think that in these times of high unemployment and the wholesale shedding of factory jobs, a *window* cleaning ground would be the ideal business for a redundant man to *start up.* Minimal capital will provide you with ladder, leathers and a bicycle, and a *plastic* bucket costs only a fraction of the quantity of Best London bitter it will hold. So where are they all?

I know where one has gone. Jim Cook, who works for a London office window cleaning firm, is in New York this week cleaning windows of the Empire State Building, hanging by a mere *canvas belt* at a terrifying *height above Fifth Avenue.* Cook won the doubtful expenses-paid privilege by entering a competition on the label of a vodka bottle. I can only think he demolished most of the contents before setting down which particular dream he would like to come true.

Cook, who used to clean the topmost windows of the Post *Office Tower before they closed* the restaurant, told me he would not care to be a self-employed domestic window cleaner in England. People do not want their windows cleaned when it is raining, which it does a great deal, so *there is money* to be made only in fine weather.

And householders never seem to be in when the window cleaner calls. The trouble and strife of trying to collect the money afterwards, according to Cook, tends to negate all the attractions of the job, like freedom, *fresh air* and all those other little bonuses that George Formby used to sing about.

Milkmen, as I reported the other day, have the same problems, which is one reason why doorstep *milk deliveries are on* the decline in some areas.

Meanwhile I have to do the windows myself, enduring white knuckles, vertigo, paralysing fear and greasy streaks—and that is only on the ground floor. I wish someone down my way would start up one of those small businesses which Mrs Thatcher *seems to believe* are the answer to industrial redundancy. It would provide work, and save me from a broken neck.

Great escapist

I detect a considerable revival of interest in the works of Dornford Yates, the mannered, witty escapist novelist who is usually associated with the twenties but who in fact died *only in 1960.*

Penguin plan to reissue three of the Berry and Co novels this summer, and BBC Television is considering another dramatized series. Six of the original Yates titles are still in print, *and continue to sell well.*

But the best news for Yates enthusiasts is that the first thorough biography of this shadowy and often maligned figure is to appear next year. The book, by Jack Smithers, *was to have been published by* Cassell, but fell victim to that house's recent decision to abandon almost its entire general publishing list.



"Nigel says that in time they'll be able to detect race riots from outer space."

The manuscript has been rescued by Hodder and Stoughton, who hope to pub*lish it next February.*

Little is known about Yates, except that he was really a barrister named C. W. Mercer, lived in France until chased out by the Germans in 1940, and spent most of the rest of his life in Rhodesia, where he was commissioned in the army. He wrote his first short story in 1911 and maintained a substantial output until two years before his death.

"Yates still has a tremendous public", Smithers told me. "His style is very Harrow-and-Oxford, Shakespeare-and-water, but he wrote excellent, if pedantic, English, and he was a thundering good storyteller." Smithers has *tracked down many of Yates's* close associates, including his bank manager; by coincidence Smithers's daughter was born in Yates's former house at Walmer, Kent, now a nursing home.

Hidden plot

Wild woodland 15 minutes' walk from King's Cross station? Well, something like it, anyway, has come to light after lying hidden for years.

The triangular plot of just under an acre near Thornhill *Square, N1, has been left* undisturbed and untended since it fell into neglect as an ornamental garden soon after its enclosure in the 1850s. There is no public access into it, and the only means of entry is through the houses backing on to it.

It has mature chestnut, lime, ash and plane; elm went with the *disease. There are saplings,* scrub and undergrowth, and fewer broken bottles, old bedsteads and tips of rubble than you would expect. Jays have been sighted, and it is a haunt of Barnsbury's owls.

The people whose houses back on to it have never really had the right to enter it, and they don't much, though they kept chickens there during the war. Islington council bought it in 1973 for purposes now abandoned, and is now considering its sale for private housing. The surrounding residents, unhappy *at the prospect, have formed a* Barnsbury Wood Cooperative for its preservation.

They make the rather grand claim that it is "an established but neglected ecological park". The word "ecology" is a weapon of modern manufacture much employed in the warfare of planning controls. It *means in this case that the* schoolchildren of Islington would not have to go all the way to Highgate cemetery to be shown what nature is like if left to itself.

Flying on a Pan-American Boeing 747 last week, I was disturbed by an advertising slogan on the inside of the aircraft door, just above the emergency escape chute container, which declared cheerfully: "Say hello to a brand new world"

Pray, sirs . . .

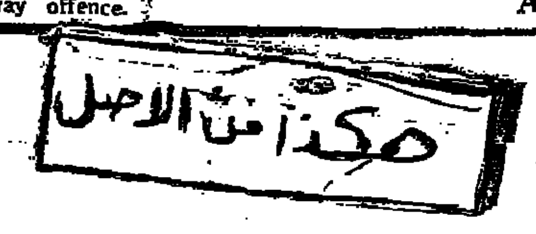
Representatives of the Jewish community, in their first formal discussion with the Church of England, have complained that the new Anglican Alternative Service Book contains more than a hint of antisemitism. It comes in the third Collect for use on Good Friday, which seeks God's mercy on the Jews and asks that they be cured of "ignorance, hardness of heart, and contempt for your word".

Canon Peter Schneider, an Anglican participant in the meeting, is now asking for it to be withdrawn in favour of something that cannot give offence.

The Roman Catholic Church agreed several years ago to rid its public prayers, particularly those on Good Friday, of such phrases as "the perfidious Jews". It is all the more surprising, therefore, that this Anglican prayer got into the new book without being challenged. It may be explained by the fact that Jewish-Anglican relations have only just been put on a formal basis, amidst, I may say, much goodwill.

The French never lose their sense of chic, not even at the security check at Charles de Gaulle airport, Paris. A colleague watched a woman passenger present herself for weapon screening, wearing a jaunty hat held at its angle by a huge and potentially lethal hatpin, which was regarded suspiciously by the guards. "Mais vous comprenez", she murmured sweetly, "pour le chapeau il faut absolument . . ." She was whisked through with adoring smiles of understanding, fully equipped to open whelks or stab the entire crew in the back.

Alan Hamilton



Stock Exchange Prices

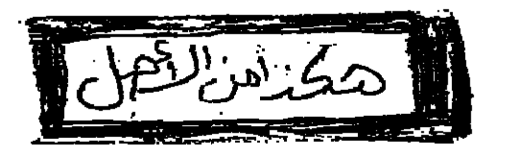
Quiet trading

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began, April 10. Dealings End, April 30. § Contango Day, May 1. Settlement Day, May 11.

§ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days

BRITISH FUNDS

1980/81 High	Low	Stock			Price	Ch'ge	Int. only Yield	Gross Red. Yield
SHORTS								
99 7/16	91	Exch	8 1/2%	1981	99 7/16	..	8.298	11.598
99 15/16	91	Exch	9 1/2%	1981	99 1/4	-1/16	9.572	12.937
96 7/8	85 1/2	Exch	3%	1981	96 7/8	..	3.097	12.137
100 15/16	93 7/16	Exch	12 3/4%	1981	100 5/16	+1/16	12.710	12.158
97 3/8	88	Treas	8 1/2%	1980-82	97 5/16	-1/16	8.714	11.916
95 1/2	81 5/8	Treas	3%	1982	94 1/4	-1/8	3.183	10.279
102 1/4	90 1/2	Treas	14%	1982	101 7/8	-1/16	13.741	11.760
95 3/4	85 3/4	Treas	8 1/4%	1982	95 1/2	-1/4	8.640	13.315
98	85 3/4	Exch	9 1/4%	1982	95 5/8	-1/4	9.672	12.622
94 7/8	84 1/8	Exch	8 3/4%	1983	94 9/16	-1/4	9.253	12.514
89 1/4	76 1/2	Exch	3%	1983	88 1/8	-1/8	3.403	10.164
99 7/16	85 3/4	Treas	12%	1983	98 15/16	-1/4	12.146	12.702
94 3/16	84 1/8	Treas	9 1/2%	1983	93 3/4	-1/4	9.889	12.511
102 1/4	94 1/4	Exch	13 1/2%	1983	101 1/8	-3/16	13.348	12.865
94 1/16	84 1/4	Exch	10%	1983	93 3/8	-1/4	10.666	12.830
87 1/4	76 3/4	Fund	5 1/2%	1982-84	86 1/4	-1/8	6.351	11.258
97 3/16	86 3/4	Exch	11 1/4%	1984	96 1/4	-1/8	11.691	12.850
104 3/16	94 1/2	Exch	14%	1984	102 11/16	-1/16	13.629	12.929
80 1/2	68 1/4	Exch	3%	1984	79 3/4	-1/8	3.762	10.659
99 1/2	89	Treas	12%	1984	98	-1/16	12.246	12.708
109 1/4	97 1/2	Treas	15%	1985	106 13/16	-1/16	14.042	12.703
98 1/2	96 15/16	Exch Cv	12%	1985	98	-1/16	12.246	12.632
75 1/4	68 15/16	Treas	3%	1985	74 1/2	●	4.032	10.909
MEDIUMS								
103 1/4	88 1/2	Exch	12 1/4%	1985	97 11/16	+1/16	12.537	12.920
97 1/8	93 1/2	Exch	11 3/4%	1986	96 1/4	-1/8	12.208	12.801
69 11/16	68 1/4	Treas	3%	1986	69 1/2	-1/4	4.337	11.067
97 11/16	97 1/8	Treas	12%	1986	97 1/4	-3/16	12.462	12.998
89 1/4	78 7/8	Treas	8 1/2%	1984-86	87 1/4	-1/8	10.002	12.495
105 3/8	90 5/8	Exch	13 1/4%	1987	102 5/8	-1/8	13.273	13.294
81 1/4	70 1/4	Fund	6 1/2%	1985-87	77 1/4	●-1/2	8.395	11.822
99 1/4	91 1/2	Treas	12%	1987	93 1/2	●-1/8	12.759	13.389
83	71 7/8	Treas	7 3/4%	1985-88	79 1/4	-1/8	9.922	12.643
65 1/4	54 3/4	Trans	3%	1978-88	63	-1/4	4.828	10.648
98	82 1/4	Treas	11 1/2%	1989	91 1/8	-1/8	12.843	13.709
68 1/4	57 1/4	Treas	5%	1986-89	64 7/8	●-1/8	7.702	11.597
104 1/4	89 1/4	Treas	13%	1990	99 3/4	-1/8	13.443	13.650
82	69 1/2	Treas	8 1/4%	1987-90	79 3/4	-1/2	10.728	13.552
96 1/4	81 7/8	Treas	11 3/4%	1991	91 1/4	-1/8	13.396	13.889
68	57 1/2	Fund	5 3/4%	1987-91	64 3/8	-1/8	8.952	11.962
92 3/4	77 3/4	Exch	11%	1991	84 1/4	●-1/8	12.994	13.517
102 1/8	86 5/8	Treas	12 3/4%	1992	96 5/8	-1/8	13.558	13.829
86 1/4	74 1/2	Treas	10%	1992	81 1/2	-1/8	12.468	13.525
100 1/2	84 3/4	Exch	12 1/4%	1992	92 1/2	-1/8	13.471	13.863
104 1/4	94 1/4	Exch	13 1/2%	1992	98 1/4	-1/8	13.875	13.980
100 1/2	84 1/2	Treas	12 1/2%	1993	85 1/2	-1/8	13.538	13.813
66 1/4	54 3/4	Fund	6%	1993	62	-1/8	9.764	12.045
107 5/8	92 1/8	Treas	13 3/4%	1993	104 1/4	-1/8	13.901	13.936
115	96 1/2	Treas	14 1/2%	1994	104 7/8	-1/8	14.049	13.945



Quiet trading

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began, April 10. Dealings End, April 30. § Contango Day, May 1. Settlement Day, May 11

§ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days

BRITISH FUNDS

SHORTS

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97⅞	88	Treas	8½% 1980-82	97 7/16	-1/16	8.714	11.916
95¼	81⅞	Treas	3% 1982	94¼	-⅛	3.183	10.279
102¾	90½	Treas	14% 1982	101⅞	-1/16	13.741	11.760
95¾	85⅝	Treas	8¼% 1982	95½	-¼	8.640	12.215
96	85⅝	Exch	9¼% 1982	95⅝	-¼	9.672	12.622
94⅞	84⅞	Exch	8¾% 1983	94 5/16	-¼	9.253	12.314
89½	76½	Exch	3% 1983	88⅛	-⅛	3.403	10.164
99 7/16	85¾	Treas	12% 1983	98 13/16	-¼	12.146	12.702
94 1/16	84½	Treas	9¼% 1983	93¾	-¼	9.869	12.511
102⅛	94¼	Exch	13½% 1983	101⅛	-5/16	13.348	12.986
94 1/16	84⅛	Exch	10% 1983	93¾	-¼	10.686	12.830
87⅛	76⅛	Fund	5½% 1982-84	86⅝	-⅛	6.351	11.258
97 5/16	86½	Exch	11¼% 1984	96¼	-½	11.691	12.850
104 5/16	94½	Exch	14% 1984	102 11/16	-5/16	13.628	12.929
80⅝	68⅝	Exch	3% 1984	79⅝	-⅛	3.762	10.659
99⅝	86	Treas	12% 1984	98	-5/16	12.246	12.708
109¼	97⅝	Treas	15% 1985	106 13/16	-5/16	14.042	12.703
98⅞	96 15/16	Exch Cv	12% 1985	98	-5/16	12.246	12.632
75⅝	65 15/16	Treas	3% 1985	74⅝	● ..	4.032	10.909

MEDIUMS

1980/81 High	Low	Stock		Price	Ch'ge	Int. only Yield	Gross Red. Yield
103⅛	89½	Exch	12¼% 1985	97 11/16	+3/16	12.537	12.921
97⅛	93½	Exch	11¾% 1986	96¼	-⅛	12.208	12.801
69 15/16	69¼	Treas	3% 1986	69½	-¼	4.337	11.067
97 11/16	97⅛	Treas	12% 1986	97⅛	-3/16	12.462	12.908
89⅞	78⅛	Treas	8½% 1984-86	87⅛	-⅛	10.002	12.495
105⅞	90⅝	Exch	13¼% 1987	102⅝	-⅛	13.273	13.394
81⅛	70¼	Fund	6½% 1985-87	77⅛	●-½	8.395	11.822
99⅞	91⅛	Treas	12% 1987	93⅝	●-⅛	12.739	13.389
83	71⅞	Treas	7¾% 1985-88	79¼	-⅛	9.922	12.643
65⅛	54⅞	Trans	3% 1978-88	63	-¼	4.828	10.648
96	82⅝	Treas	11½% 1989	91⅛	-⅛	12.843	13.709
66¼	57¼	Treas	5% 1986-89	64⅞	●-⅛	7.702	11.597
104¼	89¼	Treas	13% 1990	99⅞	-⅛	13.443	13.650
82	69½	Treas	8¼% 1987-90	79⅝	-½	10.726	12.582

COMMONWEALTH AND FOREIGN

LOCAL AUTHORITIES

DOLLAR STOCKS

BANKS AND DISCOUNTS

BREWERIES AND DISTILLERIES

COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL

A—B

C—E

F—H

I—L

M—N

O—S

T—Z

FINANCIAL TRUSTS

INSURANCE

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

SHIPPING

MINES

OIL

PROPERTY

RUBBER

TEA

MISCELLANEOUS

RECENT ISSUES

RIGHTS ISSUES

صكذا من الاصل

THE TIMES
BUSINESS NEWS

debt
the
West
1

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ilts 69.10 down 0.58

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45 down 175 pts
98.9 down 0.3

ar
102.5 up 1.0
2.1703 up 176 pts

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ey
sterling 12⅛-12⅞
Euro $ 16⅞-16⅞
Euro $ 16½-16¾

BRIEF

an visits es arch te

executives from Japan were in north terday at the start of eight possible British new Datsun car fac-

m was shown an 800- at Deeside, not far tish Steel's Shotton re more than 7,000 ve been made redun- e last year, and will her sites near Cardiff port, South Wales, isiting other short- as in Britain. The of England is still a front-runner. anned £300m factory an 5,000 new jobs and nerate more work to irms.

floats £14m n Swiss market

International Finance ao will float a 60m (£14.25m) maximum nvertible bond on the pital market between and 21, lead manager Leyser Ullman (Suisse) erms of the bond, d by Lonrho, would on May 13. mpany will set a rela- gh coupon comparable ht bond coupons.

undons well

Petroleum says it has and abandoned its a well 211/7A-2, north- Shetland, after a four- drilling programme. was spudded in 1978 entry drilling started ember. ill rig, Sedco 707, has ved to the Ula field 7/12 in the Norwe- tor for an appraisal added.

rs go back

ke by maintenance men pervisers which para- wansea docks last week- over. The men, who mplaining that docks ad been over-zealous in into thefts of building s from a depot, decided meeting to return to About 50 clerical staff sumed normal working.

Easter break

t 4,600 employees at the Leyland truck and trac- tory at Bathgate, West , will start the Easter early. Their three-day time is re-arranged to em Thursday and Friday s week followed by the next week. It will be 28 before they return to obs.

am's China deal

iam Tatham of Rochdale, shire, has been awarded a 00 contract by China for en carding machines t intense competition Belgium, Italy and Japan. ery is scheduled for Octo-

ll St lower

Dow Jones industrials ge closed 7.11 points down 93.16. The $-SDR was 76. The £ was 0.558688.

British banks ready to postpone Polish debt payment

By Michael Prest

British banks are in favour of a proposal to postpone Poland's payments of second-quarter commercial debts. The proposal emerged during discussions between Poland's Western creditors in London.

The postponement plan envisages Poland continuing to pay interest on the approximately $1,000m of capital due to be repaid in the current quarter. Poland had asked for suspension of interest and principal payments.

But it was reported last night that some American banks would prefer that interest on the debt be repaid at a higher, penalty rate. On the whole, the American banks have taken a harder line throughout the negotiations.

A taskforce of up to 20 banks, representing more than 400 banks, has hammered out the basis of an agreement with Bank Handlowy, the Polish foreign trade bank, which will be discussed at another meeting in London on Thursday. Poland owes the banks $3,100m in principal this year.

Under last night's proposed deal, commercial loans of more than one year's maturity will be rolled over monthly between the end of March and the end of June. If agreement is reached on a full rescheduling of Poland's entire $12,700m debt to Western banks the rolling over could end earlier.

But the size of Poland's short-term debt—for a year or less—is causing some concern. The interim plan does not cover these debts, which are believed to be held largely by Swiss and French banks. France has announced its willingness to make further credits to Poland.

While the commercial banks have been agonizing over their problems, finance ministers meeting in Basle for discussions on bolstering the International Monetary Fund's finances, said they thought agreement could be reached on rescheduling the $4,400m official debt owed by Poland this year.

Representatives of various governments are due to meet their Polish counterparts in Paris at the end of April. Bilateral agreements between the countries might follow in May. Both banks and governments must start soon on a comprehensive rescheduling of Poland's debt for the rest of 1981 and beyond.

It is feared that not all banks will agree. Although the talks are being coordinated by the task force, final agreement will have to be made between the individual banks and Poland. It is pointed out that the agent for a syndicated loan cannot be responsible for payments to banks which are not a party to the agreement.

High Street banks face mounting industrial action over unilateral pay award

Lloyds forces staff to take 10 pc pay offer

By David Felton

Lloyds Bank is implementing a 10 per cent pay offer to staff at the end of this month against the wishes of the Banking Insurance and Finance Union.

The news, given to delegates at the Bifu conference in Blackpool yesterday, was immediately greeted with the threat of an increase in the industrial action, already planned, after Easter.

Other banks will follow suit, but may not pay the increase until next month.

The bank's offer has been accepted by the Clearing Banks Union, but Bifu, its TUC-affiliated rival, is holding out for more.

Bifu has already called a 24-hour strike by 8,000 staff in banks and cash centres in several large provincial towns and the West End of London for Thursday next week in protest at the offer.

A ballot of about 500 data processors who work at Lloyds computer centre at Samson House in the City, has also been sanctioned. The results will be known next Tuesday, and if there is a majority for action, the staff will join the one-day strike.

About 30 staff in Lloyds' Registrar's department at Durrington, Surrey, who handle share registrations, are also to be balloted. The Association of Scientific, Technical and Managerial Staffs will ballot its own members in Midland Bank to see whether they will join the Bifu action.

Mr John Hargraves, a Bifu assistant secretary, last night accused Lloyds of breaking an agreement with the union by implementing the 10 per cent increase for higher grade staff.

"It is now off with the gloves if they are going to play that way. I am absolutely disgusted at the action of the bank and it is clear we are now dealing with dishonourable men", he said.

The conference backed next week's 24-hour strike which is to be followed by an overtime ban and work to rule and a ballot of all its 72,000 clerical and managerial staff members in the five English clearing banks on industrial action.

Mr Kenneth Poeler, Bifu vice-president, told the conference that last year the banks made profits of £1,400m and could well afford to pay more than 10 per cent.

"The issue is now wider than pay and concerns the elementary principle of whether a trade union can negotiate for its members", he said.

The conference reaffirmed its determination not to enter joint negotiations on pay and conditions with the CBU. Mr. Leif Mills, Bifu general secretary, said the employers had a vested interest in promoting the CBU which, he believed, had no credibility.

Mrs Patricia Hart, a member of the union executive, claimed the banks had decided to ask staff to transport amounts up to £20,000 in their cars as part of contingency measures to circumvent the effects of a programme of industrial action.

Details of gilts deals go to Stock Exchange

By Rosemary Unsworth

About 30 stockbroking firms yesterday responded to the Stock Exchange's call for information on dealings with Farrington Stead, the Manchester gilts fund management group, whose £2m debt to Hedderwick Stirling Grumbar, stockbrokers, resulted in Hedderwick being hammered on Friday.

The Exchange's accounts committee had issued a notice to all broking members yesterday morning asking for a return on all transactions with Farrington Stead in which either stock was owing, money outstanding or deals in the course of registration.

All the 30 brokers who responded were based in London and the provinces, and simply reported that they had had dealings in the past.

A Stock Exchange spokesman said last night there was no evidence to give the committee any cause for worry over other brokers' liquidity as a result of deals with Farrington Stead.

At the same time Quilter Hilton Goodison, which was to have merged with Hedderwick on Friday, said that it would look after any of Hedderwick's 5,000 private clients who needed broking services. Quilters also announced that it was offering jobs to 20 Hedderwick employees.

It had planned to take on 70 employees and 10 Hedderwick proprietors, but the latter have been disbarred as Stock Exchange members as part of the hammerings.

Mr Colin Malcolmson, head of Quilter's private client department which looks after 20,000 clients, said: "Hedderwick's was a volume business. Never before has there been a hammering of a firm that has affected so many private clients."

Mr Martin Fidler, the Stock Exchange's official assignee, was appointed as liquidator to Hedderwick yesterday morning. He said that the first creditors' meeting will be on April 24 when information on the full extent of assets and liabilities would be revealed.

Preferential creditors would include Hedderwick's staff who are owed back pay for work this month, government departments, including the Inland Revenue and Customs and Excise for VAT. Banks and jobbers were not included as preferential creditors.

Mr Fidler said that proceedings had been started to try to recover the £2m owed by Farrington Stead.

Farrington Stead has been a licensed dealer since January, 1980, operating from central Manchester. Its current licence is due to expire next January.

It was set up by Mr G. W. Farrington, an actuary, Mr H. Stead, who is understood to be a former insurance broker, Mr M. Barnfather, a chartered accountant and Mr R. Carter. None was able to be reached for comment yesterday.

Sir Anthony Salt of Williams de Broe, stockbrokers, said yesterday that discussions with a few employees in Hedderwick's gilt department—which was not included in the Quilter merger—had been discontinued since Friday's events.

The £2m debt which precipitated the collapse was incurred by Hedderwick's gilts department, where there were two Stock Exchange inquiries in the last two years.

Last year the former head of the gilts department was expelled from the Stock Exchange.

Hopeful signs that worst of recession may be over

By Melvyn Westlake and Clifford Webb

Some sections of British industry may be experiencing the first tentative signs that the recession has passed its worst point. But the picture is far from uniform, and output continues to fall in key sectors.

According to new Government figures, manufacturing industry has seen its first overall monthly rise in production since the autumn of 1979. After 15 months of continuous decline, manufacturing output rose in February by just under 1 per cent.

Hopes that this might presage an end to the decline are strengthened by evidence of returning business confidence in the hard-hit West Midlands. A survey of the region shows that 17 per cent of firms are forecasting improved profitability, compared with 9 per cent in December.

At the same time, the number expecting a further deterioration in profits has fallen sharply from 71 to 48 per cent. Weak investment is still widespread, but for the first time in nine months there is now some indication of improvement. About 11 per cent of firms have actually revised investment plans upwards, the survey shows, compared with only 6 per cent in June 1980.

The survey also shows guarded optimism on the jobs front. More than 8 per cent of firms are forecasting an increase in labour over the next three months; 61 per cent believe they can keep their existing workforce, while those still shedding labour have fallen from 38 per cent to 31 per cent.

In spite of the encouraging news, chambers of commerce in the region insist that the recession has not yet bottomed out. Mr Geoffrey Jackson, vice-chairman of the West Midlands Regional Group of Chambers of Commerce, who carried out the survey, said: "Although at first sight some of the answers might suggest that the worst is over, a fuller analysis shows that the sharp down trend in recent surveys is really only beginning to slow down."

However, in the House of Commons yesterday, Mr Leon Brittan, Chief Secretary to the Treasury, claimed that the latest output figures for industry were "hard evidence" that the downturn could be at an end. In support of his claim he pointed to housing starts, which rose sharply in January and February.

Government statisticians are being more cautious. Manufacturing output in February, they say, "suggests some easing in the rate of decline". When oil extraction, mining, construction and utilities are included, the overall rise in output during February was about the same as for manufacturing alone.

However, manufacturing output was still about 16½ per cent below the autumn 1979 level.

More than two-thirds of the February increase in manufacturing output resulted from steel and beer production. The engineering sector, the biggest, saw a further drop in output. But chemical output where changes often reflect overall economic activity, improved in February.

The increase in beer production is attributed to pre-Budget buying, and steel output partly to restocking.

Warburg set to sell metal trade subsidiary

By Ronald Pullen

Mercury Securities, the holding company of the S. G. Warburg merchant banking group, is likely to sell the metal trading subsidiary which provided its legendary founder Sir Siegmund Warburg, with his introduction to London's financial markets in the late 1940s.

Talks are now going on with Pechiney Ugine Kuhlmann, the French chemicals and aluminium group, which could lead to the sale of Brandeis, Goldschmidt for a yet undisclosed sum. Brandeis contributed around a quarter of Mercury's after-tax profits of £11.6m in the year ended March, 1980.

The subsidiary is an important ring-dealing member of the London Metal Exchange and has scrap refining interests in the United States.

In common with other metal traders Brandeis has had an erratic record over the last few years, with profits swinging from a low of £323,000 in 1978 to £2.89m last year. This stems from the volatile activity on the LME and the cost of financing metal stocks during periods of high interest rates but Brandeis has sought to offset this through extending its trade activity to non-ferrous alloys and ore. According to its last published accounts at March 31, 1980 Brandeis had a net asset value excluding deferred tax of £24.8m.

Explaining Warburg's readiness to sell after an approach from Pechiney, Mr G. Elliot, vice-chairman of Mercury and chairman of Brandeis, said that Brandeis' trading portfolio was now dominated by industrial metals and it was in the interests of traders to have maximum industrial rater than financial backing. Pechiney is especially strong in ferro-alloys where Brandeis has built up its expertise in recent years.

Some savings from the amalgamation of ring-dealing seats on the LME where Pechiney is represented through its Intsel subsidiary are also expected.

It was Brandeis, at that time a private company, which provided Siegmund Warburg with a desk when he arrived in London in the 1930s. He subsequently purchased the shares of the family owners. The small stake owned by RTZ was acquired in the early 1950s.

Proceeds from the sale will be used in the group's main-stream banking business. The move follows the sale of its interest in the D'Arcy-MacManus advertising agency after its merger with the United States Masius group in 1977 but it continues to hold a number of investments outside its main banking business, including a 30 per cent interest in insurance brokers Stewart Wrightson.

Bankers agree to lend IMF $1,200m

From Peter Norman
Basle, April 13

The central bankers of the main western industrial countries today agreed in principle to lend 1,000 million special drawing rights (about $1,200m) to the International Monetary Fund.

The loan, which is needed to build up the IMF's rapidly diminishing liquidity, is meant to flank the $16,000m financing agreed recently between the fund and Saudi Arabia.

It was not immediately clear whether the bankers from the group of 10 countries and Switzerland would put the finishing touches to the deal during what remains of their two-day meeting here, although one central banker remarked that the agreement reached was as good as final.

Britain is thought to be prepared to lend its part of the 1,000 million SDR package directly to the Fund while other central banks—notably those of countries with balance of payments deficits—are thought likely to arrange their share of the financing through the agency of the Bank for International Settlements.

But the loan scheme will not end the problems of the IMF. It now appears as if next month's meeting of the Fund's interim and development committees in Gabon could turn into an acrimonious clash between the developing and the western industrialized countries.

Forces close to yesterday's meeting of finance ministers in London said today that the discussions spelled "bad news" for the least developed countries.

It would appear that the United States and Britain adopted an extremely reserved attitude towards proposals from M René Monory, the French economics minister, to establish new facilities at the IMF to aid the poorest developing countries through their financial difficulties.

In other respects, however, the London meeting passed off smoothly.

Neither the London meeting nor that of the central bankers in Basle brought any clarity to the debate over a concerted lowering of interest rates. The United States, represented by Mr Donald Regan, the Treasury Secretary, maintained that high interest rates were necessary to combat inflation.

This position was backed by Herr Karl-Otto Pöhl of the German federal bank, who is embroiled in a controversy with Herr Helmut Schmidt, Chancellor of West Germany who, with the French would like to see interest rates fall.

Mersey docks' £6m losses

By Michael Baily
Shipping Correspondent

The Mersey Dock Company lost £6.25m last year, almost all in severance and fall-back pay, preliminary results disclosed.

Of 1,000 dockers required to take voluntary severance by the month's end, if Government support is to continue, 613 have so far applied and chairman Sir John Page gave warning that without Government support, Mersey would run out of cash within months, a receiver would probably be called in, and "life will be far more unpleasant for far more people than under the present arrangements."

Of the company's 20,000 stockholders, nearly half hold fewer than 100 and 86 per cent fewer than 500 shares.

Some £3.4m was spent last year on fall-back pay for dockers with no work, and £2.4m on severance. More ominously, perhaps, revenue dropped for the first time in the port's history from £67m to £66m, despite inflation. Sir John blamed the state of the economy and world recession. But because Liverpool's deep sea trades had been harder hit than those with Europe, they could benefit more when the upturn came, "as come it must".

Sir John Page

Trading loss before exceptional items was up from £1.8m to £3.9m last year; the main exceptional item, voluntary severance, was down from £5.6m to £2.4m and the loss for the year down from £7.5m to £6.25m. Accumulated tax losses now amount to £67m.

Sir John expressed disappointment that the dockers' union nationally had urged men not to take the present temporarily enhanced severance, worth up to £16,000 tax free.

2,500 fresh steel jobs in prospect

By Peter Hill

Projects which are expected to lead to the creation of more than 2,500 jobs in steel closure areas are being examined by BSC (Industry), the job-creation subsidiary of the British Steel Corporation.

The company announced yesterday that projects under negotiation would be likely to qualify for more than £2m in training grants from a joint fund established between BSC (Industry) and the European Social Fund.

The purpose of the training grants fund, under which the European Social Fund matches an equivalent amount from BSC (Industry) is to encourage new industry in steel closure areas by off-setting the potentially high costs of in-house training.

Three companies yesterday announced projects in the steel closure areas of Corby and North Lanarkshire which will lead to the creation of more than 500 jobs. The three projects will receive training grants totalling £300,000.

Mr John Dunbar, chief executive of BSC (Industry) said: "We believe that training grants will play an important role in the regeneration of industry in steel areas. This is particularly the case when steelworkers have to learn new skills."

Pound slips as dollar gains ground

STERLING
Effective exchange rate against major currencies (average 1975 = 100)
104 102 100 98 96 94
Spot rate (close)
2.45 2.40 2.35 2.30 2.25 2.20 2.15
J A S O N D J F M

Sharply higher dollar interest rates sent the United States currency soaring and gold plunging on world financial markets yesterday. Sterling sank to its lowest level against the dollar for more than a year.

Friday's increase in prime rates by two leading United States banks from 17 to 17½ per cent, which was followed yesterday by several others, and higher-than-expected money supply figures gave a big lift to Euro-dollar deposit rates. Three-month Euro-dollar deposits closed more than ½ percentage points up on Friday at 16 11/16 per cent.

The dollar opened higher after gains over the weekend and remained firm all day, closing in London at DM2.1703, up 1.76 pfennigs from Friday. Its trade-weighted index, measured against a basket of leading currencies, rose 1.0 to 102.5, its highest level since the present method of calculating the index was adopted at the beginning of February.

Easing tension in Poland and the Middle East and the stronger dollar hurt gold which closed in London at $471.50, down $21 from Friday.

The pound fell to $2.1520 at one stage during the day before recovering to close down 1.75 cents on Friday at $2.1645, its lowest point since the beginning of April last year. But it was down only fractionally on Continental currencies and its trade-weighted index fell just 0.3 to 98.9.

Australian inquiry into oil share dealings

Sydney, April 13.—Officials are investigating rumours that stock market "killings" totalling millions of dollars were made because of an advance leak about problems in an alternative-energy project.

Mr Frank Walker, New South Wales Attorney-General, told the state Parliament that a business watchdog body, the State Corporate Affairs Commission, was conducting a detailed analysis of trading on the Sydney stock market in shares of two companies involved in the Rundle oil shale project in Queensland.

Meanwhile, an Esso Australia spokesman confirmed that the Rundle partners would meet officials of the Queensland state government in Brisbane tomorrow to discuss the review of the scheme.

The other partners, Central Pacific Minerals and Southern Pacific Petroleum, hold the mining leases for the shale deposit.

Last week the companies announced that the economic viability of the project to produce synthetic crude oil from shale rock was being reassessed because of unexpected technological and geological problems.

The Opposition Labour Party has alleged that a leak of the problems had enabled people connected with the government to make illegal profits in share trading.

Under New South Wales law, insider trading is punishable by a fine of up to $10,000 (£5,300) or five years in jail.

The share price of CPM and SPP have collapsed since the Esso announcement.

PRICE CHANGES

es

ook Pub	8p to 236p
on Clark	8p to 120p
& Co	9p to 80p
)	16p to 338p
al Nat Res	25p to 800p
Haden Carrier	12p to 300p
Seccombe Mars	20p to 280p
Tace	3p to 24p
Trafford Park	7p to 179p
Travis & Arnold	10p to 170p

ls

y Leslie	3p to 37p
Gold Fields	15p to 465p
a Rue	18p to 710p
trocomps	15p to 718p
t Castle	8p to 98p
Guthrie Corp	13p to 812p
Harrison Cros	13p to 862p
Horizon Travel	13p to 260p
Mercantile Hse	20p to 643p
Saatchi	10p to 261p

THE POUND

	Bank buys	Bank sells
stralia $	1.95	1.87
stria Sch	34.90	32.70
gium Fr	82.25	78.25
nada $	2.63	2.54
nmark Kr	15.33	14.53
nland Mkk	9.35	8.90
ance Fr	11.40	10.90
rmany DM	4.87	4.63
eece Dr	115.50	109.50
ngkong $	12.00	11.40
eland Pt	1.33	1.27
ly Lir	2380.00	2280.00
pan Yn	493.00	468.00
therlands Gld	5.39	5.13
Norway Kr	12.33	11.68
Portugal Esc	127.0	121.00
South Africa Rd	2.06	1.92
Spain Pta	192.00	183.00
Sweden Kr	10.60	10.06
Switzerland Fr	4.44	4.21
USA $	2.21	2.14
Yugoslavia Dnr	81.00	76.00

Rates for small denomination bank notes only, as supplied yesterday by Barclays Bank International Ltd. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques and other foreign currency business.

Hopes pinned on exclusive new fashion fibre with a silken touch

Mantle of secrecy thrown over ICI fabric

ICI's fibre division, hit by more than 4,000 redundancies last year, is set to launch its first major textile product in a decade. The new fibre, which is being shrouded in secrecy—its name has not yet been revealed—is designed to have the finish of silk but be machine-washable. It has been developed at the ICI Pontypool plant in south Wales that bore the brunt of last year's redundancies.

It will be launched at the Interstoff fashion and fabric exhibition in Frankfurt next month and initially production will be limited in an attempt to give the product, a new version of polyester fibre, an exclusive image. The fibre is the first result of ICI's stated intention of moving the division more towards consumer, rather than commodity, product development, a policy decided at the time of last year's redundancies.

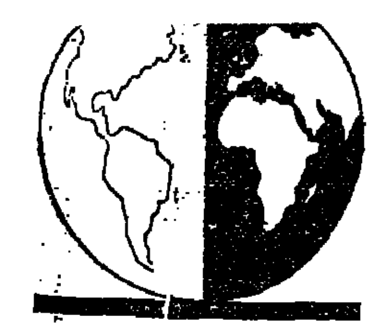
ICI has not exhibited at Interstoff, one of the main textile showcases on the international fashion circuit, for five years. If the new fibre takes off, it appear in British stores early next year. ICI expects that the material will be used mainly in blouses and underwear.

The company's fibre division was last profitable in 1974 and has been severely affected by rising energy costs. It produces Bri-Nylon and Terylene, both of which are facing fierce competition from Japanese-made lightweight polyesters.

Last year's announcement of redundancies in ICI was followed by a restructuring of the fibre division. It was decided that the company would produce more speciality products on the grounds that textiles sales during the 1980s were not likely to grow.

The new fibre will be backed by a £500,000 advertizing and promotion campaign throughout Europe, the first of which will not name the product. The first United Kingdom advertisements will appear at the end of this month in fashion-trade publications. ICI is already planning the introduction of new weights of the fibre to be produced at Pontypool

David Hewson



Temporary curbs put on textile imports

Britain, France and West Germany have been permitted by the European Commission to limit imports of textiles originating in non-EEC countries that have been routed through member states. The action comes under a special Community provision to protect weak industries in member countries, which allows temporary trade barriers to be eected between them.

Britain will be allowed to limit imports of woven suits produced in Bulgaria until the end of June and West Germany to limit imports of cotton fabrics originatting in China until the end of October. France can now restrict imports of certain knitted clothing which contain plastic material coming from Taiwan until the end of October and cotton fabrics produced in South Korea until July 31.

The measures follow similar limitations imposed by France on Japanese television sets earlier this year.

Merchant banks call

The United Arab Emirates must restrict the expansion of Banks and branches but promote the creation of a few soundly-structured investment or merchant banks, the UAE Central Bank, says in its first annual report. The UAE had many banks, bank branches, money-changers and financial companies. But the lack of genuine investment companies and merchant banks was both a cause and effect of the rudimentary state of the money and capital markets.

Steel slowdown

Japanese crude-steel production fell last year for the first time in three years because of the domestic economic slowdown and an export slump, according to the manufacturers. The Japan Iron and Steel Federation said production in the financial year ending last month totalled 107.38 million tonnes a 5 per. cent decline from 113.01 million tonnes the previous year after a drop in demand from the construction and civil-engineering industries.

Mobil oil find

Oil has been found in the High Island area of the Gulf of Mexico, 108 miles south-east of Galveston, Texas, where the a Mobil Corporation is developing a natural gas find. Partners with Mobil are Standard Oil Co (Indiana), Northwestern Mutual Life Insurance, Texas Gas Transmission Co and Union Oil Co of California.

Belgium output up

Belgium's seasonally adjusted industrial-production index rose by 11.6 per cent in January from December but was 1.1 per cent below the January, 1980 level, according to the National Statistics Office in Brussels.

China tourism rise

China earned $617m (£284m) in foreign exchange last year from its expanding tourist industry, more than a third above the previous year, the official Guangming daily newspaper has reported.

Moscow-Tokyo pact

The Soviet Union and Japan reached a new five-year trade and payments agreement to replace a previous one that ended last December. The formal signing is expected to take place in Moscow next month.

Austrian prices up

Austria's preliminary March consumer price index last month stood at 126.9 points, 0.8 pe cent above February but 7.2 per cent higher than in March 1980. The 1976 index equals 100.

US coal talks

Negotiations between the Unite dMine Workers of America and the coal industry were resuming today in an effort to end the week-and-a-half old strike, according to a union spokesman in Washington.

Italian output up

Italian industrial output, seasonally adjusted, rose a provisional 7.5 per cent in February, after a 1.2 per cent January fall. For the whole year, the index showed a 3.6 per cent fall from February 1980.

BL-Mitsubishi link

Leyland Nigeria, a British Leyland affiliate, and Mitsubishi are discussing plans to produce two or three tonne Japanese lorries in Nigeria. But Mitsubishi says the plans have not been completed.

Trade deficit halved

Japan halved its trade deficit last year thanks to soaring exports, including a 41 per cent rise in vehicle shipments, the Finance Ministry said in Tokyo.

Steel strike call

Metalworkers in the north of West Germany have asked their union's central committee to sanction a strike after the collapse of wage talks with employers.

UK jobs worry in Philips reshaping

Parts of the United Kingdom operations of Philips, the Dutch electronics and electrical multinational, could be at risk in their widespread restructuring to cut 20,000 jobs—mostly in Europe—over the next two years. Britain is a key part of the Philips empire, accounting for 10 per cent of the company's world sales, as well as the same percentage of the total workforce.

The biggest anxiety over the British operation, which covers many sectors from kitchen appliances and lighting to colour television manufacture and defence equipment, is that its overall profitability is said to be below Philips' international average. With United Kingdom wage levels rising, the costs of production in Britain are now only marginally less than on the Continent where productivity levels are mostly higher.

Philips said in London last night: "It is too early to say what other action may be necessary in the United Kingdom apart from that already in train. Any such plans would first be discussed in the normal course of consultations with our employees."

The key question is whether any of the larger British operations is at risk as Philips looks for a radical reduction in plants duplicated in various countries. The company, for example, produces television tubes at nine European plants, and would like to reduce this to two.

One of the tube makers is Philips' Mullard subsidiary in Britain, sole producer of tubes in the United Kingdom until Sony starts some tube production in Wales about the end of this year.

Mullard tube production is running at one million a year being used extensively by other United Kingdom television makers as well as going to Philips' own assembly factories.

Philips makes around 500,000 colour television sets a year in Britain, accounting for a quarter of the United Kingdom market and rather more than a sixth of Philips' European production.

Rationalization of Philips' colour television assembly in Britain—with a Lowestoft factory to close in about a year—is already reducing jobs by 1,100 without reduction in production. Rationalization of glass and tube production has cut the workforce by another 850.

The television assembly is being located in one factory at Croydon, but even when Lowestoft is closed and all production is transferred, there will still be room for production expansion at Croydon. On television assembly Philips has been registering productivity increases of between 10 per cent and 15 per cent annually for several years.

Whether these rationalization moves may produce an impregnable argument for maintaining, or even expanding, the United Kingdom tube making operation, together with television set assembly, remains to be seen. Around 75,000 British-assembled Philips sets are exported annually.

At Hamilton in Scotland Philips employs around 1,200. The factory is designated a key world production centre for lighting fittings and electric shavers.

Philips makes such designations when various factors, like the strength of a domestic market, most favours a factory as a key source for international markets. Hamilton, which also manufactures other small appliances like fan heaters, exports 40 per cent of its output.

Philips' main centre for production of larger kitchen appliances in Britain, is at Halifax in Yorkshire where there is a workforce of 600. This is a world production centre for tumbler driers where 600 are employed. But there could still be a question mark over at least part of the Halifax operation.

Halifax also produces "front loader" washing machines for the United Kingdom and Irish markets. But Philips already gets a large proportion of its washing machines as well as much refrigeration equipment in Italy where high production volumes have kept selling prices comparatively low despite the high inflation rate.

But with Philips now having more than 15 production centres in Britain —including Pye factories around Cambridge, it seems unlikely that the British operation will go unscathed.

The jobs reduction envisaged will effectively reduce the Philips workforce throughout Europe by about 9 per cent overall.

Derek Harris

Abolition of training board urged

Engineering companies have called for the abolition of the Government industry training board and have made their support of any reconstituted body conditional.

The Engineering Employers' Federation which has 6,000 members, said that it would only support a new statutory board if it were controlled by the industry.

In its response to the Manpower Service Commission's review of training requirements the EEF said that a "substantial proportion" of its membership considered that the Engineering Industry Training Board should be abolished. It claimed that the board had outlived its usefulness in raising the quality and qantity of training.

The EEF claimed that the present structure of the EITB rendered it insensitive to the real needs of companies.

Noting that the Government had already declared its intention of retaining statutory boards in key areas—despite the employers' opposition—the EEF said that it would support a restructured board on which employers accounted for half the membership and held the chairmanship.

The EEF also stressed that its support for any new body would be conditional on the scope of the reconstituted training board being widened to encompass all companies employing engineering skills.

Discord over Bonn's interest rate policy

From Our Own Correspondent
Bonn, April 13

The West German government in Bonn and the country's independent Central Bank have fallen out over how to run the economy. Herr Helmut Schmidt, the Chancellor, in pushing for a policy of lower interest rates has met unexpectedly tough opposition from Herr Karl-Otto Pöhl, the president of the Federal bank.

Although government spokesmen in Bonn were today denying reports of a row between the two men, relations seem to have deteriorated over the past few weeks.

Herr Schmidt is under pressure from leftwing colleagues in the Social Democrat party to stimulate the economy in an attempt to prevent unemployment rising to an average of 1.2 million this year.

Herr Pöhl, who owes his present position largely to the support given to him in the past by the Chancellor, is adamant that battling inflation which is currently around 5.5 per cent, should be the main priority for policymakers.

In the Federal bank view, high interest rates are necessary to stifle inflation and to help the structural adjustment process that Germany must undergo if it is to get ride of its now huge balance of payments deficits.

The immediate cause of discord is the plan announced last week under which Germany and France will borrow the equivalent of 5,000 million European currency units (about £2,700m) for lending at subsidized interest rates to small businesses and for energy saving projects.

It now seems as if the amount of interest subsidy may be as high as 2.5 per cent—a level which the Federal bank believes could prove to be a stimulus to inflation as well as provoke United States criticism

Accordingly, when Herr Pöhl attended last week's cabinet meeting in Bonn he did not give his approval to the borrowing plans. Although these plans can go ahead without specific Federal bank authorization, Herr Schmidt chose to show his displeasure the following day in an unusual way.

He disclosed that M Raymond Barre, the French Prime Minister, had written to Bonn to protest about Germany's high interest rate levels. Instead of maintaining a discreet silence about the letter, the Chancellor announced that he had passed it to the Federal bank to answer—making clear that he was distancing himself from the Central bank's high interest rate policy.

This public move tends to reinforce reports that the Chancellor took both Herr Pöhl and his deputy Dr Helmut Schlesinger to task at a stormy confidential meeting between coalition party leaders and the two Central bankers at the beginning of this month. Tempers apparently flaired and the meeting broke up in ill-humour in the early hours of the morning of April 3.

100,000 UK textile jobs go in a year

By Peter Hill
Industrial Editor

More than 100,000 jobs disappeared in the British textile and clothing industries last year and 77 mills in the cotton and allied textiles sector closed permanently.

The latest survey of the industry published yesterday underlined the depth of the recession which the textile sector has experienced, and even the welcome decline in the volume of imports provided only qualified relief since imports share of the home market actually increased.

Figures published yesterday by the Textile Statistics Bureau showed that at the end of last year, employment in the textile industry had declined by 68,000 compared with a year earlier while in the clothing sector, employment was 35,000 down on levels of a year earlier.

With man-made fibre production and carpet manufacture, the worst-hit sector last year was the cotton and allied textile sector. Nearly half of the workers still employed in the sector at the year-end were on short-time.

British Telecom to start high-speed desk-to-desk message service

A high-speed desk-to-desk message service is to be started early next year by British Telecom, the telecommunications arm of the Post Office. Users of the service will be able to type letters, internal memoranda and other messages on their terminals as if the terminals were ordinary typewriters, and then send the correspondence directly to the recipient over the telephone network.

Announcing this yesterday, Mr Peter Benton, managing director of British Telecom, said that his organization's primary role in the new service would be to provide the network.

"We are looking to British industry to supply the terminals", he said. "With Teletex we are creating a new office equipment market with vast potential and we are inviting suppliers to take advantage of this exciting opportunity".

The word "Teletex" is used to describe the interconnexion of text-handling terminals via a telecommunications network.

"At the start, Teletex will use the public telephone network and the packet-switched data service", Mr Benton said. "Shortly afterwards we shall provide connexions with the telex network, enabling Teletex customers to communicate directly with the 90,000 telex terminals in Britain and also with the one million telex users overseas".

Worldwide Teletex standards have recently been agreed by the International Telegraph and Telephone Consultative Committee (CCITT). These include a technical recommendation for terminals. Its aim is to ensure that users will have freedom in the way they type their Teletex correspondence as they have in using an electric typewriter.

In its simplest form, the terminal can be an electric typewriter having an ability to communicate. A more complex terminal can be a visual display unit able to perform word-processing and other specialized business functions.

Text can be prepared in A4-size pages in either upright or horizontal format. When prepared, the message is held in a store in the terminal. The message can be sent immediately or delayed for later transmission. The store will also receive and hold incoming messages, for display when required.

"Now that there are international standards for Teletext", Mr Benton commented. "I am sure that it will develop rapidly around the world. We are discussing arrangements for an international Teletext service with a number of countries including West Germany, Sweden and Belgium. In due course we shall be able to offer an international Teletext service giving users direct desk-to-desk message communication to many countries".

Technology News



Mr Peter Benton: "office equipment market with vast potential."

Standard system

A standard design of computer system—expressed as a functional specification—has been completed for the management and accounting aspects of the direct-works departments of local authorities in a collaborative project which has involved 155 such authorities in England, Wales and Scotland.

Local authorities will use it to help them to comply with the Local Government Planning and Land Act 1980, which broadly imposes a requirement that authorities should operate their direct-labour departments as trading organizations, quoting for jobs and charging on the basis of those quotations.

The project has been coordinated by the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy, and the specification was prepared with local authority consultation by Logica, the London-based computer consultancy.

The main types of work covered in the specification are highways, housing, building, engineering, parks and sewers. Separate parts of the system handle work entry; costing analyses and management accounting; and work programming and control.

Local authorities have contributed up to £1,800 each towards the cost of the design, with the Department of the Environment adding £30,000. The next stage for the authorities will be the implementation of the design; this can be done in several ways.

Research centre

The recently-launched International Electronic Publishing Research Centre will initially be a special-interest group of PIRA, the printing-industries research association based at Leatherhead, Surrey. Chief executive will be Mr Brian Blunden, director of PIRA's printing and electronic publishing division.

Six objectives have been set for the new centre. These are:
1. to carry out technical, techno-economic, behavioural and market research with the aim of assisting publisehrs, product development and suppliers;
2. to carry out research into electronic publishing on a co-operative, multi-client or exclusive basis for subscribing members;
3. to provide "hands-on and test-bed facilities" for the use of new systems;
4. to evoluate systems, software and equipment;
5. to act as an international focal point for the results of relevant studies;
6. to provide research reports, seminars, conferences and exhibitions.

Among those involved in the formation of the new centre are Mr Gordon Graham, chairman and chief executive of Butterworths, who is chairman of the board of management of the centre; Mr Robert Maxwell, of Pergamon Press; and Dr Georges Anderla, of the European Commission. The target is to gian 100 subscribing member companies during the first twelve months.

NRDC buys shares

The National Research Development Corporation's small company innovation fund is acquiring 30 per cent of the ordinary share capital of Shapecut Machines, of Woodley, Reading, Berkshire. Shapecut has developed a range of profile cutting machines and electronic optical-scanning (line-following) control units.

Kenneth Owen

Recovery through productivit

From Mr Vani Borooah and others

Sir, Professor Minford's article (April 7) on inflation raises some interesting points. If inflationary finance is an alternative to raising revenue are the costs higher than if that revenue is raised by taxation or borrowing? Or is he merely saying that people prefer to spend their own money themselves, in which case it is hard to see how any role for the public sector could be justified?

More generally, inflation need not be the fault of the Government at all but the consequence of a broader dispute over the distribution of the national income. Taking a simple case, suppose households want 80 per cent of output and firms want 30 per cent. The chances are that neither will attain its target share, but as they try to move towards them wages and prices will rise. Monetary expansion may be necessary to lubricate the system but it does not cause the inflation.

Over the past 15 years social pressures have increased the size of the public sector and we have had to pay more for our imports, reducing the proportion of output which can go to meeting profits and after-tax wages. This has generated periodic bouts of inflation which have probably further depressed profits and, by reducing investment, cut back on the ability of the economy to pay higher wages. A sustained recovery can only be expected if the productivity of labour starts to grow much more rapidly.

Yours faithfully,
VANI BOROOAH,
RICK VAN DER PLOEG,
MARTIN WEALE,
Department of Applied Economics,
University of Cambridge,
Sidgwick Avenue,
Cambridge CB3 9DE.
April 9.

From Mr Nigel F. B. Allington and Mr T. W. Taylor

Sir, Professor Minford (April 7) has got us wrong in including us in his "dangerous and dishonest game".

We are neither Keynesian nor monetarist and it is possible for a practising economist to be neither and still believe in something. If Professor Minford would look at the statement as carefully before interpreting it as we did before signing it, he would find that what we subscribed to was that "there is no basis in economic theory or supporting evidence for the Government's belief that by deflating demand they will bring inflation permanently under control and thereby induce an automatic recovery in output and employment".

We signed that statement because we believed it to be true and we still believe it to be true. Firstly, it is our judgment that the Government attempted to deflate on a down-swing and still conti so, allowing the eff borne, in the mai private sector. nothing in economic support that: no would subscribe to th tainly no monetarist. there is no conclusive evidence for the U dom demonstrating relationship between of growth of the aggregate and the p It must be said also sector borrowing, wh achieved by the c new money, does no inflationary, but rath tional, effects. Furthe war Government h itself capable of the money supply Thatcher's Governme exception.

Of course, there policies, but surely a matter for discuss concerned.

Finally, if Professo wishes, on another oc make public copy apparent political mo haps he will do us the of discussing the ma us beforehand.

Yours faithfully,
NIGEL F. B. ALLINGT
T. W. TAYLOR,
Department of Econom
University of Wales
Institute of Science
and Technology,
King Edward VII Aven
Cardiff, CF1 3NU.
April 7.

The story of concrete

From Mr Peter Campbell

Sir, I was interested to read the letter sent to you by Mr Woolrich (April 6). Your correspondent supports the need for more programmes dealing with the work of engineers, presumably on television; and points to the lack of attention to technical history in our colleges and universities.

As secretary of the Institution of Structural Engineers History Study Group, I wrote to all the engineering faculties in the United Kingdom some time ago to ascertain the extent to which they were interested or involved in the subject of engineering history. All but two dismissed the matter of history on the specious grounds that they had more than sufficient problems with the syllabus they determine!

As an active member of the Concrete Society, I have for a long time urged that films on television that illustrate the best that has been achieved in structural architecture, and explain why, in many instances, concrete receives bad publicity, would do much to improve public relations between designers and the population they seek to serve.

In this connexion, your readers may be interested to learn that some colleagues and I are in the process of setting up the first ever museum of the history of concrete, at the Southern Industrial History Museum complex at Amberley near Arundel in Sussex.

It is planned to open the first exhibition in the early summer, and it is hoped that students, historians and members of the lay public will find this fascinating story, which goes back in time to c5600 BC, a worthy addition to this important new museum.

Yours faithfully,
PETER CAMPBELL,
Campbell Reith & Partners,
Chartered Civil, Structural and Marine Engineers,
Grove House,
100 High Street,
Hampton,
Middlesex TW12 2IU.
April 8.

Pioneering d

From Mr P. B. E. Tho

Sir, The men of the age who infl the appearanc countryside to e neglected, as V (April 6) implies.

The Institution o Engineers is at the engaged in publishing a which will lighten the surrounding the liv pioneering Victorian engineers such as J. Trobe Bateman and Hawksley. Today, these unknown outside the industry, yet many o dams, some nearly 1 high (for instance, the ley dam in the W District) are still in us 100 years after they wer This achievement, giv sketchy knowledge, theories and primitive t the time, does indeed greater fame.

Yours faithfully,
P. B. E. THOMPSON,
Director (publications),
The Institution of Civil Engineers,
26-34 Old Street,
London, EC1P 1JH.

BY THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

Glaxo regains its glamour

; not going to move off its five-year plateau this year. But yesterday's a £5.3m profits recovery to £35.6m interim stage adds to the excitement ding a share which is looking for : prospects on the drugs front in seeable future.

rice closed 16p up at 338p, a new d an improvement of almost 50 per six months. That rise is very largely hopes for Ranitidine, a new ulcer it which could make significant nto a £200m-plus world market now monopolized by Smith & Kline's drug.

the figures, which would have been gher on stable exchange rates, the aw signs of a possible reversal in ward drift of return from Glaxo's mainstream products. Trading have edged upwards at last to 10½ helped by improved prices and productivity while Glaxo claims ume improvement in a 12 per cent gain to £331m.

w injected Zinacef seems to have he competitive squeeze on the the cephalosporin field, while States clearance for Ventolin, an anti-asthmatic drug, should help fits trending higher and so ease nse as investors wait for Ranitidine ts mark.

this year could reach £75m to ainst a 1977 peak of £87m, and ully-taxed p/e ratio of around 15 ield of under 4½ per cent assuming ent dividend increase in line with m is clearly ambitious.

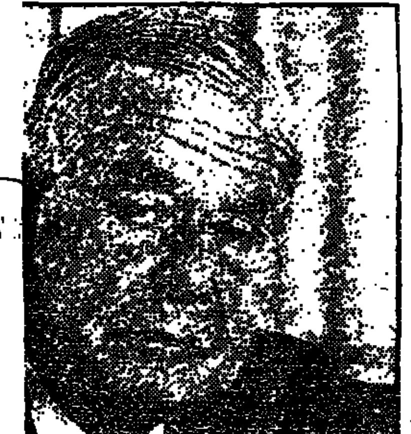
Portland

rtland Cement seems to be taking ore sanguine view of the present both competitors and outside of the industry.

, however, it followed the broad attern. A bumper first half made sually clement winter weather and cent price rise gave way to a second half when industry tumbled by 18 per cent.

domestic profits, fell by nearly .9m before interest in the second over the year it reckons to have tained market share and the pre- n—up from £15.1m to £16.9m— e with expectations.

e dividend unchanged on the



-Carpenter, chairman of Rugby

hare capital the shares yield 7.9 at 85½p and the fully-taxed p/e out 12.

relative optimism about 1981 is hopes of recovery in the second rs are talking about a drop of tenth in cement deliveries after r cent fall.

reason for optimism is that the operations, manly Australia's form better this year after 1980's in profits to £2.9m pre-interest. also been spending heavily in rs on modernizing and reducing ts in its cement activities.

, given the present state of the n industry, a more moderate ce rise of 11¼ per cent and the that cement deliveries will be ply again this year it is hard to ugby will match last year's pro- hough the balance sheet is sound ares offer a reasonable yield and current cost dividend cover, they are not likely to go far at this stage of the construction cycle.

Burton Group

Back on an even keel

A bouquet, not a brickbat for Hedderwick Grumbar, or rather its former retailing team: it seems to have come closest in guessing the interim pre-tax profits of The Burton Group.

Hedderwick went for £9m for the six months to February; Burton in fact made £8.77m against most broking estimatos of £8m to £6m. This is, moreover, a "clean" profit, uncluttered by exceptionals. In the same months of 1980 the comparative figure was £9.3m. For the year to August, 1980, the figure has been restated at £12.6m, down from an original £13.1m.

Burton did as well as it did despite a sales gain of only 5 per cent to £124m because it has got to grips with lossmakers and laggards. The group has nearly completed the *concentration of manufacturing* capacity into only two factories employing 750 people against 14 with 13,500 in 1970; it has disposed of most of the shareholding in the French division, stemming losses but making no profit. Evans Mail Order has closed and Post Haste and J. Greenrobes have been sold. Rymans is making a little money. It may be kept, but if it fails to continue improving it too will go. It has sales of £20m a year.

Finally, borrowings are down to £16m from £44m at the beginning of the financial year and should fall further. It all seems to point to profits of around £14m for the full year, and the shares responded with a 2p rise to 137p, a new 1981 "high" where *the yield is 5.7 per cent.*

At first glance the good news is out; the shares have had their rise and other recovery stocks like Woolworth and Debenhams offer more tempting returns. Retail business is still flat and prospects are said to be "uncertain". But Burton is winning market share, and it still has only around 5 per cent of the menswear market and a mere 2 per cent of womenswear.

Margins are thought to offer much scope for improvement. The group has also avoided continuous "sales" and now keeps stocks under tight control. The excitement of "recovery" may now be over but the retailing skills of the Burton board are not in doubt, and the shares seem worth keeping for eventual retail upturn.

St Piran

Mr Raper's blatant challange

In bidding for St Piran at well below the price laid down by the Takeover Panel, and even below the suspension price, Mr James Raper has again confronted the panel with a blatant challenge.

Previous failures to comply with the panel's rulings have mainly been because of inability to pay the required price. But Mr Raper and Gasco Investments, his Hongkong vehicle, have now confronted the authorities with the difficulty all rulemakers dread: what to do with someone who ignores you.

The panel has already used many of the weapons at its disposal, including asking The Stock Exchange to consider suspending *the St Piran listing.* This the Stock Exchange did, with the result that locked-in shareholders are being offered less than they might have got for their shares on the open market. The fact that the Stock Exchange must abide by its own rules to preserve an orderly market may even work in Gasco's favour: it can buy control of St Piran cheaply.

But difficult though the position now is, the authorities are not without recourse. The battle could now shift from the self-regulation front to the legal one. The panel and the Department of Trade will obviously look at the provisions of the Companies Acts, among which are disenfranchisement of shares, resort to the courts to try *and prove conduct prejudicial* to the interests of shareholders, forced sale of shares, and regulations by the court of a company's affairs. St Piran shareholders can take action themselves.

Michael Prest

Poland's debts—a headache for the West

Representatives of more than 400 Western banks are due to meet their Polish debtors in London again on Thursday in another attempt to reach agreement on the repayment of Poland's massive debt. But it is now clear that the problem of rescheduling the Comecon member's obligations will not end with this set of negotiations. The banks and governments (which are also big creditors) are looking to 1982 and 1983 when more Polish loans should mature.

It is generally accepted that Poland is in a state of undeclared default. The creditor banks and governments have still not calclated the precise figures, but they broadly concur with Poland's own estimates made at the end of last year. The Polish Government then said that it owed Western banks $12,700m, and governments and their credit agencies another $10,400m.

Although it was known at the end of 1980 that Poland would have difficulty meeting its debts this year, the first formal warning of a failure to pay came about three weeks ago. After paying the $830m due in the first quarter, Poland began *informing banks and governments* that it could not pay anything in the second quarter. A key part of the present talks, therefore, is whether to suspend these payments—put at $1,000m in principal and interest—until the end of June.

But that only begs the question of what happens between June and December, not to mention next year and 1983. Debts to Western banks due for capital repayment this year amounted to about $3,100m. That has now been reduced by the amount paid in the first three months.

On top of the maturing loans, however, there is as much again in interest payments. In total, therefore, Poland's true debt to the banks this year is more than $6,000m.

At the last count 426 banks were involved in 12 Western countries. Most of the leading British banks are exposed, with *Barclays Bank International* (BBI) and Lloyds Bank International (LBI) the biggest lenders. Poland was scheduled to repay some $220m in capital this year, and roughly the same amount in interest, to British banks.



A Warsaw stall-holder stands sentinel over her empty trays: a victim of economic uncertainty and confusion.

In fact, Britain is faily well down the list of lenders to Poland. West Germany, the United States, and France are owed principal of $678m, $575m, and $378m respectively this year. Other creditors are Austria, Belgium, Italy, Holland, Switzerland, Japan and Canada.

Coordination of all these governments and banks is a big problem. The banks have formed a task force consisting of two banks from each creditor country, but *since not all countries* have agreed on its representatives, the task at present numbers only between 16 and 20 banks. Which banks will speak for their national groups in 1982 and 1980 is the subject of recently convened discussions. The British members are *LBT and BBI.*

Apart from these two British banks, other leading creditor banks include Chase Manhattan, Citibank, Bank of America, Dreadner Bank, Deutsche Bank, and the main French institutions. There is also a host of smaller banks which have been swept up in the crisis because they were minor participants on syndicated loans. The banks are still working out exactly who is involved and how much they have at risk.

As if such a variety and complexity of banks relations was not enough, the interests of governments also have to be considered. About 50 per cent of commercial loans are guaranteed by governments. Apart *from not wanting to pay out* millions to the banks in lieu of debts in default, governments themselves are at risk on a huge scale. Both parties, banks and governments, must conduct separate sets of negotiations which arrive at the same conclusion.

If such an agreement, or coordinated set of agreements, is to be reached, banks and governments need to be satisfied that Poland can repay.

Whatever arrangements are made to see the country over its immediate difficulties—hard enough in the present troubled economic and financial circumstances—they will mean little if a similar crisis erupts next year. The framework for discussions is therefore a two or three-year programme of rescheduled debts and economic stability in Poland.

The Poles put forward a programme for 1981 at the beginning of March. It estimated total capital repayments due this year at $7,500m, of which *$3,100m was owed to banks and* the rest to government.

The current account payments deficit was $3,400m, giving an external financing requirement of $10,900m. This was to be met by $3,400m of net export credits, and by rescheduling commercial and official debts. Another $1,000m bridging loan was intended to smooth the process.

Since then Poland has asked for a moratorium on repayments of all principal and interest during the second quarter. The likelihood is that the country's creditors will agree, partly because they have little choice, and partly because they would rather defer debts than make fresh loans which would simply meet immediate obligations.

Some banks are also afraid that money lent to Poland would be used to meet debts to the Soviet Union, mainly incurred last year, and to other Comecon members.

But the strategic problem is how far into the future a rescheduling agreement should reeach. The banks will have to sort that problem out before they meet the Bank Handlowy, Poland's foreign trade bank, on Thursday.

The American banks are particularly reluctant to make commitments to helping in the short term if subsequent years' debts remain unsecured. By contrast, the European banks and governments, especially France and West Germany, have been more flexible, and announced their willingness to make new credits if conditions are agreed.

Conditions are a sensitive matter. Not only is Poland much the biggest international banking crisis, dwarfing those of Zaire and Turkey, but it is the first outside the International Monetary Fund, and in the Eastern block. However much goodwill the Poles show, there must be serious doubts about their freedom to negotiate a stabilization programme without annoying the Soviet Union.

In the great confusion and uncertainty at present reigning in Poland, the sight of Western banks dictating conditions for the repayment of loans entered int oby an unpopular government might not be well *received.*

The dreadful irony is that many bankers were willing to lend to Poland because they argued settlement of the debts was backed by the Soviet Union. Somewhat contradictorily, they also claimed that the loans promoted detente.

Thursday's meeting will be seeking a solution which secures the debt without antagonizing the Soviet Union, the Polish government and party, or Solidarity.

Why Europe's recession may be worse than expected

David Blake

The meeting of the Group of Five finance ministers at the weekend seems to have made predictably little progress towards agreeing a joint policy on interest rates. Whenever one of the world's big economies is pursuing a tight money policy, as America is doing now, the others want to see coordinated action on interest rates. That is to say, they want the tight money country to loosen its policy so that they are not forced to raise their own interest rates in step.

Since the country which has raised its interest rates has done so for strong domestic reasons it is not willing to change its mind just to please other countries. That is why talks on interest rate coordination are the longest-running non-event in the world economy—as was preved again on Sunday when representatives from Britain, Japan, France, West Germany and the United States met in Downing Street. Such talks always founder on a straight conflict of interest.

In a world of fixed exchange rates with low inflation, that problem is not too severe. But *in the 1980s it may be driving* Europe's economies into a deeper recession than necessary, with damaging consequences for future prosperity and particularly worrying implications for Britain.

Since 1979-80, the countries of the Western world have been trying to come to terms with the impact of the second big increase in the oil price (the first came in 1973-74). In the early stages after the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (Opec) raised its prices, the Western economies did surprisingly well. Although higher oil prices had the usual effect of increasing the rate of inflation, it did not start off a new wage-price spiral in most countries.

Pay settlements (except in the United Kingdom) did not rise *by the full amount needed to* compensate for the extra cost of petrol. In other words, people accepted that a higher price for Opec oil meant lower living standards for the rest of us.

It was on this basis that many economists, including those at the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development and the EEC Commission, formed a guardedly optimist picture of the likely course of events. After a bad second half in 1980 and a depressing start to 1981, they expected inflation to start falling from about the middle of the year and output to start rising. Those projections now look too optimistic.

For the European countries, the most important factor has been the interplay between interest rates, exchange rates and the price of oil. High interest rates in the United States have led to a surge of strength for the dollar. Its value against the mark has gone up by over 20 per cent over the 15 months since the start of 1980. During the first three monts of this year, the dollar has risen by 11 per cent against the German currency.

Devaluation is always bad for *inflation. But it is particularly* important when a currency falls against the dollar, because oil prices are denominated in that currency. So in terms of domestic costs, to German users of energy, a fall in the mark against the dollar is equivalent to a straight increase in the price of oil.

In France, this phenomenon is causing so much concern that it is referred to as a new "mini-oil shock". In Germany, the effects are being intensified by the policy changes which the authorities feel they need to apply. The Bundesbank raised its interest rates sharply in February to prevent the mark falling further and Herr Karl-Otto Poehl, the bank's president, has made it clear that he is willing to do the same again if that is what is required to stop inflation rising.

These high interest rates are particularly damaging to the German economy. *Low inflation* in Germany means that real interest rates (nominal interest rates minus inflation) are now more than 5 per cent, very close to the postwar record attained in late 1974. Thus in real terms German interest rates are far higher than in France, where inflation at 13 per cent takes the edge off the cost which a company has to pay.

Germany is caught in a trap. In order to keep up the value of the mark in the foreign exchange markets it has to have high nominal interest rates. This in turn is forcing it into a position where it has very high real interest rates. So in monetary terms, the country which has one of the most successful anti-inflation records in the world, is being forced to pursue one of the toughest interest rate policies.

Some economists in international organizations suggest that every one percentage point on interest rates knocks about a quarter of a percentage point off a country's output. On that basis alone, the loss of German output caused by the increase in interest rates early this year must be between half and three quarters of a per cent of gross domestic product.

But the damage does not stop there. There is the blow to domestic demand which comes from the loss of real income caused by the increase in domestic oil prices in the European countries, most of which have moved in step within the European Monetary System. Money has been transferred out of European hands as their terms of trade have worsened. That is one weakening factor on demand and output.

At the end of last year, the OECD estimated that 1981 would see a toughening of fiscal policy throughout the 24 nations which make it up. *Policy changes by the seven* biggest governments were expected to cut output by just over 1 per cent. When that forecast was made it did not seem a particularly tough policy. After all, the crude size of government deficits looks likely to increase because recession pushed up unemployment pay and depresses revenue.

It is now beginning to seem that the tightening of fiscal policy will cut output more than first thought. And that policy is being tightened further.

In Belgium, a new austerity package has been announced to deal with the economic crisis. Britain's Budget was tougher than seemed likely at the end of 1980.

Germany, which had planned to have the loosest attitude to *fiscal policy this year is coming* under increasing internal pressure for change. There is now open warfare between the Government in Bonn and the Bundesbank in Frankfurt.

Over the past week, Herr Karl-Otto Poehl has backed United States reluctance to cut interest rates against the wishes of his Government. And the bank has issued severe warnings of the dangers if the German *Government deficit* is not brought under greater control.

All of these pressures for a tightening of fiscal policy are having their effect. Business confidence throughout Europe, but most notably in Germany, has been declining this year. *The recession in Europe* is unlikely to bottom-out before the autumn. And as the inflationary consequences of the drop in the value of European currencies feeds through, pressures to tighten still further could mount.

Recession has crept more slowly over Europe in the past two years than it did in 1974-5. But it is beginning to look as if the loss of output and employment will be as severe as the last time around.

With the worries of a new surge in inflation of the kind which followed the last recovery strong in people's minds, the prospects for a sustained upswing look slim indeed.

Business Diary: Vestey's master mariner • Small beer

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● Onda or Honda? It was all very confusing for Tony Ball, chairman of BL Europe and Overseas, who had just flown in from Tokyo with thoughts of collaboration with the Japanese company fresh in his mind, only to be greeted on arrival at his hotel outside the medieval Italian Tuscan town of Siena by representatives of the Onda.

A drummer, and two standard bearers in ancient costume whirled and threw flags, then a scarf in blue and white pattern was placed round Ball's neck and he was given a scroll proclaiming him an honorary member of the Onda.

In fact the Onda (The Wave) is one of the 17 *contrade* or quarters of Siena who for centuries have competed each year in the Palio, the bare-back horse race round the main square. Their crest is the sea with a fish swimming in it ("Dolphin natural, crowned royal, naiant in sea azure on ground argent").

The occasion was the presentation to Italy's motoring press of the Metro, due to go on sale in the country from June 6. Similar events are taking place elsewhere in Europe this week.

Sergio Mia, Leyland Italia's *managing director, hopes to sell* 18,000 Metros before the end of the year, which should see overall sales of BL models double to 38,000.

The target is 40,000 Metros in 1981, which should be 6.1 per cent of the Italian market for cars in the 1,000 cc range.



Is this the way forward for the brewing industry? Recession Special is a low strength, low cost mild newly produced by the Canterbury Brewery run by the brothers Taylor, Anthony and Simon.

The last Budget rises put between 4p and 10p on the pint at a time when consumption was falling anyway. So the Taylors decided to brew a cheap low strength special to take advantage of the lowest excise rates.

At around 40p a pint in some 30 free houses and the two pubs owned by the brewery in Kent, Recession Special (its label is shown above) certainly undercuts their two other brews costing up to 30p a pint more.

The duo have been in the brewing business for two years helped by the advice of a family friend, the Cobbs, who used to run a small brewery in Margate.

And they have even managed to penetrate the export market. CB brews are sold in the Corkscrew Wine Bar at the European Commission headquarters in Brussels. Recession is on its way there too. Now when Eurocrats need to cut corners when boozing you know things are bad.

● Geoffrey Lee, who edits one of the many financial newsletters which abound these days, has been nagging me ever since I first mentioned his somewhat unusual method of recommending mining stocks a year ago.

Finance-Monitor, the letter Lee runs from a small office in Temple Chambers, carries each month a selection of share recommendations decided by the use of *I Ching*, the ancient Chinese fortune-telling method which involves throwing around yarrow sticks and checking the results off on charts.

"You may be interested to see how accurate the *I Ching* has been—substantial profits on first 12 tips", Lee writes in the latest issue, in much the same vein as he has in the past.

And indeed there are profits, but before you throw away the calculator and rush out for a pack of Tarot cards, read on. The top 12 shares which Lee lists include such well known names as West Driefontein, De Beers, and RTZ, hardly the stuff of which gambles are made.

What is more, the companies in this unexceptional list all gained their creditable profits by selling before the slump in gold share prices of the last couple of months, a feat accomplished by many other investors who reached their decisions on what to buy and when to sell through more conventional means.

Our commodities man, Michael Prest, tells me that he views the *I Ching* portfolio as no better or worse than any of the many others around at the moment, and certainly no improvement on the advice you would receive from a stockbroker.

● The Industrial Development Advisory Board has gained a member with technical background to join the merchant bankers, accountants and smattering of trade unionists who make up its ranks.

Polish-born Adolf Frankel, chairman of Stevely Industries has joined the IDAB for a two-year term.

The board scrutinizes and recommends the level of state funding for key investment projects which are agreed under the terms of the Industry Act.

Among the projects which the board will consider—assuming that it gets that far—will be Nissan Datsun's plans to construct a car muanfacturing plant in Britain.

Frankel became chairman of Stavely 15 months ago after being managing director for 10 years.

Frankel's earlier career was heavily oriented towards advanced mechanical engineering design and development.

Other members of the IDAB include Gavin Laird of the Amalgamated Union of Engineering workers, and Christopher Hogg, chairman of Courtaulds.

Have they got the right man in Barbados? A series of advertisements bearing the words "Ronald Biggs seen in Rio" has just been published in Australia. The advertisements feature a gentleman who looks the spitting image of Biggs wearing a pair of jazzy underpants called, yes, Rio. Given the fate of the real version, they might also have suggested he was in need of a good pair of briefs.

David Hewson

FINANCIAL NEWS

Stock markets

Equities' strength not tested as buyers hold off

The Hedderwick hammering late last Friday and the weekend's riots at Brixton depressed the market yesterday.

Leading equities continued to move downwards after the falls late on Friday when the news that Hedderwick was to cease trading was announced. But dealers were impressed by the underlying resilience of shares and reported little selling. Neither, however, were there many buyers with potential investors laying quiet until the extent of liabilities is fully known.

Easter week traditionally sees subdued trading with another two weeks of the acccount still to go and tends to pull prices down. Nevertheless, dealers were of one accord that the market would *have continued* its race to break the last all-time high. With the FT Index on Friday at 551.5. Sentiment was that without Hedderwick it would have broken it yesterday.

But with the weekend's events the index opened down 4 points at 547.3 and fell to 545.4 at 2 pm. By the close it had picked up slightly to end 4.7 down at 546.6.

News that the US money supply figures had risen sharply with several banks putting up prime rates saw gilts very much lower. Dealers in longs reported little business after *opening easier* by £⅜ and finished the day up to a £¼ down. Shorts reported thin, volatile conditions. After a drop of £⅛ they closed up to £⅛ lower and at the long end were lower by £½.

Results from Glaxo, with profits at the top end of analysts' forecasts and an increased dividend, lifted shares 16p to 338p. Before the figures they had eased *4p to 318p.* Otherwise in the blue chips shares showed mixed movements and, overall, a tired air. ICI was unchanged at 266p, but Unilever dropped 7p to 503p.

Fisons fell by 3p to 150p, **Dunlop** 2p to 67p, **British Aerospace** 3p to 208p and **Tubes** 6p to 212p. With figures due today, **Hawked Siddeley** was 2p down at 332p. GKN was 3p down at 161p and **Lucas Industries**, in the wake of cuts in the workforce, was 7p easier at 203p.

Bowater provided a bright spark on the back of bid speculation from the United States and the shares rose 6p to 279p.

Apart from the encouraging high profits from Glaxo there was little startling from the companies reporting. Better than expected results from Erith and an increased dividend saw shares *boosted 9p to 80p, but* figures from **Rugby Portland** were in line with forecasts and the shares stayed at 86p but cropped ½p at the close. Interim results from **Burton** saw 2p ad*vance to 137p.*

Waiting for results today, **Northern Engineering Industries** dipped 3p to 89p.

On the bid and situations front **British Sugar** is impatient over the lack of a decision from Berisford, and shares eased 8p to 300p while Berisford lost 2p to 118p. Revived bid rumours saw a 12p advance to 172p at **Travis and Arnold**, and elsewhere in building **R. M. Douglas** was 9p up at 109p.

Meanwhile, reports that summer package holiday bookings are sharply lower saw **Horizon Travel** drop 13p to 260p after recent large gains and **Saga Holidays** ease 5p to 230p.

Favourable comment helped **John Jacobs** up 3p to 41½p, while **Cattle Holdings** was 2p higher at 33½p and **Fidelity Radio**, with encouraging signs from new television sets, rose 5p to 41p. Other firm spots were **Footwear Industrial**, up 10p at 65p, and **Arcolectric**, up 6p at 18p, after recent results.

British Car Auctions has seen some buying lately on the back of a rumour that it was about to do a deal with a distributor which would lead to new cars being put up for auction. But yesterday Mr David Wickins, the chairman, denied it. The shares were unchanged at 82p.

Legal problems upset **Argyll Foods**, 5p lower at 121p.

The engineering and electrical sectors, which have led recent upward moves with hopes of industrial recovery, did not escape the downward trend. Weekend comment helped some stocks in engineering. **Vosper** rose 3p to 91p. **Associated Tooling**, *3p to 58p* and **Futura** 3p to 62p. But otherwise jobbers reported quiet conditions with prices drifting lower.

Smiths Industries, ahead of results today, was *unchanged* at 350p, **B. Elliot** was down 2p at 188p, **Vickers** was easier by 4p at 175p and **John Brown** lower by 3p at 88p. **Laird Group** was 3p down at 136p.

Dealers in electricals reported a quiet day but drew inspiration from the industrial production figures released for February showing a 0.8 per cent rise over January.

Stocks recouped earlier mark-downs in prices with GEC closing only 7p lower at 681p. Racal eased 3p to 375p, Plessey dropped 3p to 328p and Thorn EMI was lower by 6p at 370p. BICC, after recent good results, was down 5p at 256p, AB Electronics saw a 2p loss at 106p and **Electrocomponents** was down 15p at 733p.

Banks followed the market drift with clearers showing losses of up to 10p. Attempts to lessen windfall tax on profits and the threat of union strikes also had their effect. **Barclays** was lower by 4p at 416p, Midland dropped 7p to 316p and Lloyds 10p to 343p. **National Westminster** eased 5p to 365p.

Fears that the contested bid for the **Royal Bank of Scotland** *will be referred* to the Monopolies Commission saw shares fall 6p to 160p. **Hongkong/Shanghai**, however, was unchanged at 136p and **Standard Chartered** dropped 5p to 639p.

Insurances drifted easier with **Commercial Union** down 12p at 356p, **Prudential** slipped 4p to 232p, **Sun Aliance** 14p to 836p, **Eagle Star** 8p to 245p and **Phoenix** 6p to 274p.

With the gold price just off the bottom, shares in the mining and finance sector recorded loses. **RTZ** gave up 10p to 466p and **Consolidated Gold Fields** 15p to 465p. **Anglo Am Gold** was easier by £¾ at £39⅝.

Dealers in the oil sector reported another quiet and dull day. Conditions have been weak for some time now and jobbers are looking to world oil prices for a lead. **Burmah** rose 6p *to* 167p in advance of results. Analysts' forecasts range from £44m to £68m.

Other leaders saw losses with **Shell** 2p lower at 362p. **Ultramar** dropped 8p to 470p, *BP* was unchanged at 378p, as was **Tricentrol** at 264p. **Lasmo**, however, advanced 2p to 564p.

After-hours trading was seen mainly in electricals and oils with leading oils moving ahead.

Equity turnover for April 10 was £129.21m (bargains 2,933).

Traditional options: Dealers reported active conditions. Calls were made in Premier at a rate of 8½p, in French Kier at 7p, in BSG at 2p and Roth*mans at 8½p.* Puts were arranged in J. Sainsbury, MFI, Tube Investments, Lucas, Intervision, GKN and Alpine Holdings. Doubles were completed in FNFC and GKN.

Traded options: A total of 768 contracts were recorded. Courts took 354p, BP 32, GEC 43, ICI 36, Racal six and Lonrho 41.

Latest results

Company Int or Fin	Sales £m	Profits £m	Earnings per share	Div pence	Pay date	Year's total
Beradin-Rubber (F)	0.8(0.88)	0.36(0.44)	1.22(1.53)	0.4(—)	—	0.75(0.76)
Brit Empire (I)	—(—)	0.15(0.15)	—(—)	0.2(0.2)	15/5	—(—)
Burton Group (I)	124.03(118.02)	8.77(9.34)	—(—)	2.0(2.0)	31/7	—(5.5)
Glaxo (I)	330.9(295.0)	35.6(30.32)	13.5(11.5)	3.75(3.5)	—	—(9.5)
Ldn & Contntl (F)	1.22(0.9)	0.26(0.21)	0.76(0.15)	0.1(0.1)	—	—(—)
Rugby Portland (F)	*128(110)*	16.9(15.1)	13.0(12.3)	2.5(2.5)	6/7	4.7(4.7)
Triplevest (F)	—(—)	1.7*(1.5*)	—(—)	3.16(—)	30/4	7.09(6.27)

Dividends in this table are shown net of tax on pence per share. Elsewhere in Business News dividends are shown on a gross basis. To establish gross multiply the net dividend by 1.428. Profits are shown pretax and earnings are net. * = net revenue.

Ladbroke buys more betting shops in £4m deal

By Peter Wainwright

Ladbroke Group, Brit... leading bookmakers ... around 1,100 betting shops, ... just added a further 30 be... offices in central and ... east London, and a credit ... ting business.

Ladbroke describes all ... shops as particularly well ... in areas where it has hit... been lightly represented. London as a whole the... apparently has around ... shops. It is thought the ... new group, John Manley ... Accountants, which j... Ladbroke as from April ...

Mr Cyril Stein, chai... Ladbroke Group.

capable of o big inc... *profitability. But ever...* present condition it ... diluting equity earning...

Ladbroke is paying ... Manley, but only £1m ... in cash. The payment ... red for two years. The ... the purchase price ... through the allotment ... shares, which were p... brokers L. Messel with ... tions. The placing was ... done last Thursday, ... announcement was p... until the formalities of ... were completed. The ... indicates a price for ins... of 300p apiece.

The existing shares e... to 305p yesterday, wh... yield is 6.4 per cent. The ... had already come up t... from 236p to 308p at on... At one stage in 1980 th... 120p.

Shareholders to vote on Tricentrol plan

By Our Financial Staff

Tricentrol's shareholders are to be asked their opinions of the group's *proposal to demerge its industrial divisions* from the oil and gas interests at an extraordinary general meeting on May 7.

Mr James Longcroft, chairman, says in a letter to shareholders accompanying the annual report that although the board is convinced that the proposal is in the shareholders' best interests, the cost of implementation will be considerable in terms of time and effort by the company's executive and outside advisers.

"While a considerable amount of work has already gone into the evaluation of this proposal, and indicates that it *is feasible*, it is likely to prove relatively expensive and the board would not wish to proceed unless it was satisfied that shareholders agree."

The de-merger is likely to be accomplished either by a scheme of arrangement under the Companies Act 1948 or a declaration of a dividend in specie of the shares in a holding company which in turn owns all the shares of the companies in the *industrial* group.

Mr Longcroft adds in his report that if the plans for demerger are brought to fruition, 1981 should be an interesting year for Tricentrol. With its activities restricted to those of an oil and gas explorer and producer it will have greater opportunities than before and that the de-merged company will be able to build its commercial interests and bring to market some of the new products now being developed.

Merger cleared: Secretary of State for Trade has decided not to refer the proposed acquisition by Charter Consolidated of Alexander Shand (Holdings) to Monopolies and Mergers Commission.

David Dixon: Offer by David Dixon & Son Holdings for David Dixon & Son (Leeds) preference shares is unconditional.

Jessel Trust: Rights issue has been fully subscribed by members. Basis of excess applications will be announced next week. Under*writers have therefore been re*lieved of their commitment.

Arbuthnot Government Securities Trust: Third interim 4.55p gross. Fourth interim of 4.55p forecast to make 18.22p for year to July 31. Net revenue after expenses half year to Jan 31 £1.431m (£376.500). Board believes interest rates will continue to fall and this should have a beneficial effect on capital performance of company's shares.

Stone-Platt Industries has formed Platt Saco Lowell International to coordinate and develop market for *group in the UK, the US, Spain* and other associated companies in the UK and Korea.

British Empire Securities and General Trust: Interim dividend held at 0.28p gross. Pretax revenue half year to March 31 £147,000 (£146,000). Nav per share 18.7p (16.4p).

Briefly

Williams & Glyn's Bank says fixed interest rates on new loans granted under its Business Borrowing Plan will be reduced by 1½ per cent. The new range of rates will be 14 per cent to 16 per cent. Under the terms of the plan amounts of betwen £10,000 and £250,000 may be borrowed at fixed or variable rates of interest over a maximum of ten years.

BL: Shareholders have approved an increase in authorised share capital from £1,250m to £2,400m and given authority for issue to Secretary of State for Industry additional shares having a maximum aggregate nominal value of *£1,340m. He now holds 99.59 per* cent of BL equity.

Triplevest: Dividend 3.156p per income share making 7.097p (6.271p plus special distribution for year to *end Feb. Revenue* £1.7m, £1.5m) after all charges including tax. Net asset value per capital share was 479 1-4p (401p).

Beradin Rubber Estates: Dividend 1.07p gross (1.08p) for year to Sept 30 last. Turnover £819,000 (£882,000). Pretax profit £359,000 (£441,000). EPS 1.22p.

Lambert Howarth Group. Mr J. M. Jackson, chairman, says it is not expected that volume of sales in 1981 will be as high as 1980, and board's efforts will be directed to containment of costs and the improvement of efficiency and productivity.

William Tatham of Rochdale, Lancashire, have won a major contract from the Peoples Republic of China for woollen carding machines against intense international competition from Belgium, *Italy and Japan. Contract, which* is valued at three quarters of a million pounds, was completed and signed.

Scottish European Investment. Directors are considering measures, involving a major change of *policy*, which would substantially eliminate the discount of share price to net asset value (approximately 51p at March 31, 1981). *In consultation* with the company's advisers Lazard Brothers board intends to send full details of their proposals to share*holders in near future.*

General Accident. Chairman, Mr Gordon R. Simpson, warns that with continuing and increasing pressure on margins worldwide, it is "difficult to be hopeful" that the group can maintain its underwriting performance during 1981.

Hawley aims ... further growth

Mr Michael Ashcroft, ... man of Hawley Leisure, ... shareholders in the ... report that the group wil... tinue to persue growth ... organically and by acqui... which could be overseas... ticularly in the United Sta...

Details of the merge... *Hawley with Provincial* ... where Mr Ashcroft is ... chairman, will be out on ... nesday. If the deal goes th... it will leave him, as exec... chairman of the com... group, with about 17 per ... of the shares.

Legal Appointments

FINANCIAEWS

High terest costs and fallinglemand hit Erith

By Michael Clark

A downturn in activity the second half has left of builders merchant slightly down on last record performance.

Full-year figures of th London-based group sho tax profits for the ye December 31 slipping £1.65m to £1.4m on turno by 12 per cent to £32.1m. ings per share have risen 9.29p to 10.58p.

In spite of the shortfa profits the board has pro a final payment of 3.9p making a total of 5.7p, ag 5.35p last time. The increa the dividend more than m up for the shortfall in profits with the share price responding 9p to 80p yesterday.

In his statement accompanying the figures, Mr Gordon Fisher, the chairman, blamed high interest rates and a decline in demand in the second half for the shortfall in what is traditionally the group's stronger half.

While declining to put a figure on the group's current borrowings Mr Fisher said that it was continuing to strive to reduce its overdraft, which last year saw interest charges more than double at £378,000.

The group's second half performance, which showed only a 12 per cent increase on the first half, was in stark contrast to the previous year when profits in the second six months jumped by more than 60 per cent on the interim period.

Margins came under further pressure despite the increase in turnover and the chairman admitted that volume had also showed signs of strain.

Included in the figures is an exceptional item of £1m previously held for deferred tax but now no longer required.

Looking to the current year, the chairman confirmed that business was still not as buoyant as he would like, but added that things were beginning to look up.

NCC sells 29.9pc stake in Petrocon

By Philip Robinson

Mr Graham Ferguson Lacey's NCC Energy, which is taking a 15.4 per cent stake in the US group Simplicity Patterns, has sold its strategic 29.9 per cent stake in Petrocon.

The sale of 1,765,580 shares was at 32p. Last July, NCC topped up its holding in Petrocon by buying 20 per cent of the shares in a dawn raid at 36p. NCC will receive £564,985 from the deal.

The energy group has sold 19.9 per cent of the shares to the Industrial and Commercial Finance Corporation (ICFC), 5.5 per cent to an ICFC subsidiary London Atlantic Investment Trust, and 265,580 to Mr Peter Hodgson, chairman and managing director of Petrocon.

As a result, Mr Hodgson will own 8 per cent of the company. Madgel Ltd, a private investment company in which Mr Hodgson owns a third of the shares, controls 12.7 per cent of Petrocon, a stake it bought from John Swire & Sons last August.

Earlier this month, Petrocon reported a pretax loss of £17,997 for the year to December 1980 against a profit of £152,588. After below-the-line extraordinary items of £392,302, the retained loss was £517,913 against a profit last time of £14,805.

The group, which has not paid a dividend since the first half of 1979, announced it had passed the final dividend. Contained in the final figures was an item of £80,415 relating to redundancies and severance payments.

In mid-January, Mr James Pound, co-founder of the group, resigned. In a board reshuffle, Mr Ralph Messent left the main board but remained managing director of the group's Offshore Drilling Supplies operation.

Crown House puts its case

By Michael Clark

Crown House, in its revised offer document, lays the blame for Denbyware's profits decline on its board's failure to adopt new marketing techniques.

Mr Patrick Edge-Partington, chairman of Crown House, urges Denbyware shareholders to accept the latest offer of 124p and valuing the group at £5.3m, which would give them an increase in income of some 160 per cent. However, shares of Denbyware remained unchanged yesterday at 125p.

According to Mr Edge-Partington, the new offer takes into account that negotiations are in hand for the sale of Denbyware's 50 per cent stake in International Ceramics for a consideration thought to be around £2m. Since International Ceramics last year made a contribution of some £750,000 any benefit from the sale would be materially out-


Mr Patrick Edge-Partington, chairman of Crown House.

weighed by the loss of such a contribution, he added.

The offer document also underlines what it believes is Denbyware's weakness in marketing. In contrast, the marketing abilities of its competitors had achieved much more favourable results.

Since 1976 Denbyware's pretax profits have declined from a record £1.5m to a little over £600,000 last year. Indeed, until Denbyware can develop a proper marketing strategy its profits will continue to decline in relation to those of its competitors.

Moves aimed at stopping Crown House's advances have included the revaluation of its factory at Denby. But Crown House says that this is only appropriate if Denby's tableware interests are producing a satisfactory return from the use of this factory. But so far, Mr George Robinson, chairman of Denbyware, has failed to forecast adequate profits from its tableware interests, making the basis of valuation hypothetical and inappropriate, the document concluded.

Burnett & Hallamshire lifts stake in Brint

By Michael Clark

Burnett & Hallamshire, the mining equipment group, resumed its recent spending spree yesterday when it increased its stake in Brint Investments, the energy related investment group.

Burnett increased its stake from 4 per cent to 23.2 per cent by purchasing 900,000 shares for cash from Temple Investment & Finance.

Mr George Helsby, chairman of Burnett, who is joining the board of Brint, said that the purchase was a natural extension of the group's business. Brint is heavily involved in oil, coal and gas exploration. However, he declined to mention the size of the cash consideration.

Mr Helsby said that the deal was regarded by Burnett as a long-term investment although he did not rule out the possibility of a full-scale bid later. But he emphasized that a full review and further consultation by the board would be required first.

As a result of the sale, Temple Investment & Finance's stake has been reduced to 36.6 per cent.

News of the increased stake failed to move the share price, which slipped £1 to £11¼.

The group's expansion policy has accelerated sharply in recent months after last year's successful rights issue to raise £11m. Burnett is currently capitalized at about £95m.

Since the rights issue the group has spent more than £6.6m on various acquisitions with the emphasis on the United States. In January, it bought Rushcliffe Fuels and Pineholt developments for £1.6m followed by Clift Oil of Maidstone for an undisclosed sum. In March, it paid £4.5m cash for a Pennsylvanian coal field and two weeks later it added a californian property deal valued at £530,000.

BSR hope to return to profit insecond half

By Our Financial Staff

BSR, the record changing-consumer products group whi dropped sharply into the r last year, says it could ma profits in the second half the current year.

In the year to January 10, th group saw profits of £34 plunge to a loss of £17.66m an it passed the dividend. On current cost basis the loss wa £23.4m.

But Mr John Ferguson, the chairman, tells shareholders in his annual report that although sales for the first two months of this year were lower than for the same time in 1980 there are grounds for believing that the level of activity in practically all companies in the group will continue to improve.

He says that in the sound reproduction division, all factories are now working a five-day week. Except for the small engineering companies within the consumer products division, all factories are working normally. Production levels of leading items such as electric kettles, saucepans, teamakers, vacuum cleaners and electrical accessories have been raised appreciably.

Mr Ferguson says that although the opening half will show a loss, it is expected that the second half will record a return to profitability, if sterling does not appreciate over its current levels.

The BSR figures show that sound reproduction accounts for almost two-thirds of total sales; 60 per cent go overseas, with the United States its main customer.

Last year the total workforce came down from 15,418 to ,958. The group is now just er 50 per cent geared with al debt of around £31m.

London & Continental climbs 21pc

By Richard Allen

London & Continental Advertising, the specialist advertising group headed by Mr John Golfar, an Associated Biscuits director, lifted pretax profits by 21 per cent to £260,000 last year.

The group, which reversed into Associated Tea Estates of Ceylon in 1979, was one of the first companies to join the Stock Exchange's unlisted securities market, which opened last November.

A final dividend of just 0.14p gross represents the first payment since the group achieved public status through the reverse takeover.

Mr Golfar said yesterday that each of the company's divisions progressed well in what was a difficult year for industry generally.

The group, which first specialized in selling advertising for hotel display, has been expanding fast in the poster business recently. Last year it won exclusive advertising rights to the Central Milton Keynes Shopping Area, and the main ferry terminus for the port of Dover.

Forward sales contracts now top £1m and with around £750,000 of cash, the group has embarked upon a substantial site acquisition programme. Group turnover last year rose from £909,000 to £1.2m.

New oil compay seeks up to $20m in Europe

By Peter Wilson-Smith

Pearsall Petroleum, a new company which will take a share in United States oil development and exploration, is planning to raise up to US$20m (£9.2m) through a private placing of shares with London and European institutions.

Up to 2m shares are being offered at $10 each and providing at least $7.5m is raised, Pearsall will get a stock market quote in Luxembourg and seek permission for its shares to be traded in London towards the end of May under Rule 163 (1).

Tipperary Corporation, a Texas oil and gas production and exploration company, is forming Pearsall and under a partnership agreement with Tipperary the bulk of money raised will be used to drill up to 60 wells in the Austin Chalk trend in Texas.

Mr Bernard Feshbach, president of Californian investment bankers Feshbach & Sons, explained that Austin Chalk was an established oil-bearing area and about 80 per cent of the wells drilled there should prove economically successful. He said several well-known London institutions had already undertaken to subscribe for shares. Pearsall is expected to make regular quarterly dividend payments when income starts to accrue about 90 days after the deal is completed. Pearsall plans to pay out half of its share of income generated.

Metal Box buys 49pc of Irish group

Metal Box has agreed with Borden Inc. to purchase a 49 per cent interest in Borden International Packaging, an Irish metal can maker. The agreement is subject to obtaining the necessary government consents.

The purchase price of IR£1m is payable in cash by instalments over an 18-month period.

The company operates a factory at Athy in the Republic of Ireland manufacturing cans for dried food products. Can manufacture will continue after completion of the new arrangements, and Metal Box will be supplying to Borden technological and general assistance. Plans are in hand to develop further can production in the Republic.

Business appointments

Merchant bank names director

Mr Ben Martin has been made an executive director of **Barclays Merchant Bank**. Mr Charles Morland, formerly a local director of Barclays Bank and for the past three years seconded to the Department of Industry, becomes an executive director of Barclays Merchant Bank.

Mr Ralph Cowan is the new chairman of **Wimpey Laboratories**. Mr Leslie Sallabank joins the board of Wimpey Laboratories.

Mr W. A. Simpson is now chairman of **George Wimpey ME & C Limited**. Mr T. L. Connell has been made managing director of George Wimpey ME & C.

Messrs Geoffrey C. Bodker, David K. Doran, Donald M. Fidler and Neville H. Searle have been made directors of **Wimpey Group Services**. Mr D. M. Penton has been appointed director Administration Services, but continues as company secretary to the holding company George Wimpey.

Mr Frank Pollitt becomes managing director of **Unger Meats**. Mr Andrew Lee takes over as financial director. Mr Mike Egerton is made marketing director. Mr Lee Unger becomes purchasing director. Mr Barry Unger and Mr Carl Unger, founders of the business, become chairman and deputy chairman respectively, while Mr Nyron de Boehmler serves as a non-executive director.

Mr D. J. Kelly and Mr K. E. Wallace have joined the board of **Rosser and Russell**, the holding company of the Rosser and Russell Group.

Mr Aleck Craddock is now chairman of **Harrods**. He remains managing director.

Dr Peter Caudle is now deputy director and general secretary of **Chemical Industries Association**.

Mr Michael Fisher has replaced Mr Hugh Van Cutsem as chairman of **Van Cutsem and Associates**. Mr Hugh Van Cutsem has resigned to concentrate on other business interests. Mr Brian Bailey has become a director.

Mr Ian C. Harris has been made adviser to the **Cho-Heung Bank** in London.

Mr John Munson, regional vice-president of Syntex Pharmaceuticals Group, has become a vice-president of the parent company, **Syntex Corporation**.

Mr James Johnstone, chief executive of the **Scottish Council (Development and Industry)** is to resign at the end of May to resume his business career in the private sector. His successor is Mr Hamish Morrison, the council's membership services director, who is on attachment to the EEC in Brussels.

Mr Antony Plummer has joined the board of **Roberts, Bird (Underwriting Agency)** at Lloyd's.

Mr Jack N. Bird has recently joined the partnership of **Moss, Mills and Partners**, underwriting agents at Lloyd's.

Mr F. Mobbs is now managing director of **Control Data**. He succeeds Mr J. Ward who is taking up another appointment on behalf of the corporation.

Dr A. A. Denton is the new chairman and chief executive, and Captain D. R. Noble-Smith and Mr J. Ridehalgh, directors of the newly-formed company, **Noble Denton International**.

Mr Richard Stephenson, chairman of Stephenson Shuttering, has been elected president of the **National Association of Formwork Contractors** for 1981-82. The new vice-president is Mr C. J. O'Shea, chairman of C. J. O'Shea and Company, and the honorary treasurer is Mr M. E. Napier, director of G. & S. Formwork Company.

Mr Talbot Hainault has been made chairman and Mr Alec Hall-Shaw and Mr Tom Hodson joint managing directors of **Talking Pictures**.

Bank Base Rates

ABN Bank	12%
Barclays	12%
BCCI	12%
Consolidated Crdts	12%
C. Hoare & Co ..	*12%
Lloyds Bank	12%
Midland Bank	12%
Nat Westminster ..	12%
TSB	12%
Williams and Glyn's	12%

* 7 day deposit on sums of £10,000 and under 9%, up to £50,000 9½%, over £50,000 10½%.

Peachey Property in Knightsbridge deal

Peachey Property Corporation has purchased for £320,000 the underlease of the commercial element of Lowndes Lodge. The lodge is situated in the most fashionable area of Knightsbridge, opposite the Carlton Tower Hotel.

INDUSTRIAL OUTPUT

The following are the index numbers for industrial production in June, seasonally adjusted, released by the Central Statistical Office yesterday (1975=100).

		Total (1) all industries	Total Manufacturing Industries
1976		102.0	101.5
1977		105.9	103.0
1978		109.8	103.9
1979		112.6	104.2
1980		105.0	94.8
Seasonally adjusted			
1979	1	110.1	102.3
	2	115.0	107.3
	3	112.7	103.2
	4	112.5	104.1
1980	1	109.9	100.1
	2	105.6	96.8
	3	102.9	93.2
	4	100.4	89.1
1980	Feb	109.6	100.0
	Mar	105.6	97.9
	April	106.7	97.7
	May	106.5	96.5
	June	106.6	96.3
	July	105.1	95.2
	Aug	102.5	93.0
	Sep	101.2	91.4
	Oct	100.9	90.3
	Nov	100.7	89.4
	Dec	99.7	87.8
1981	Jan	99.3	87.1
	Feb	99.1	87.9
% 3 month on 3 month change (2)		-1.3	-3.0

(1) Includes extraction of mineral oil and natural gas
(2) Average of December 1980 to February 1981 compared with the average of September to November 1980.

Anglo-Indonesian offer for Eva lapses

The offer by Anglo-Indonesian Corporation for Eva Industries has now lapsed.

Acceptances were received for 355,980 shares of Eva (3.80 per cent). Anglo and its subsidiaries owned 2.58m shares (27.57 per cent) before its offer, and have purchased a further 362,000 shares (3.87 per cent) during offer period.

The combined shareholding of Anglo and those acting in concert with it, exclusive of acceptances, now totals 40.31 per cent of Eva's share capital.

Martin Black holds its market share

Over the first quarter of the current year, the Martin-Black wire rope group has continued to experience the low levels of activity seen in the latter part of 1980. Mr Ian Morrow, chairman, says in his annual report that the group has, however, held its share of the market and is within its cash limits.

Moss Engineering buys spares group

Environmental engineer Moss Engineering Group is strengthening its engineering goods wholesale and retail activities by paying £750,000 for a Welsh auto factoring business, McJohns, which trades in motor parts, spares and accessories at Cardiff and Barry.

Moss sees the acquisition as a further step in their expansion into engineering goods markets.

Benn Brothers sells four of its titles

Benn Brothers has sold four of its titles. These comprise the trade journals *Shipping World and Shipbuilder* and *Drydock* to the Banner Publishing Company for £100,000 cash and the directories *Ports of the World* and *International Shipping and Shipbuilding Directory* Volumes I and II to Lloyd's of London Press for £203,400 in cash.

In the last financial year the net profits attributable to these publications represented 4 per cent of the group's net profit before tax.

M. J. H. Nightingale & Co. Limited

27/28 Lovat Lane London EC3R 8EB Telephone 01-621 1212

The Over-the-Counter Market

1980/81 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div (p)	Yld	P/E
75	39	Airsprung Gr	72	—	4.7	6.5	11.4
50	21	Armitage & Rhodes	49	−1	1.4	2.9	20.2
192	92½	Bardon Hill	191	—	9.7	5.1	7.2
98	88	Deborah Serv	98	—	5.5	5.6	4.9
126	68	Frank Horsell	106	+1	6.4	6.0	3.3
110	39	Frederick Parker	51	+1	1.7	3.3	22.2
110	68	George Blair	68	—	3.1	4.6	—
110	59	Jackson Group	106	—	6.9	6.5	4.0
124	103	James Burrough	117	−1	7.9	6.8	9.6
334	244	Robert Jenkins	320	—	31.3	9.8	—
55	50	Scruttons "A"	52	—	5.3	10.2	3.8
224	209	Torday Limited	209	—	15.1	7.2	3.6
23	8	Twinlock Ord	11½	—	—	—	—
90	69	Twinlock 15%	72	—	15.0	20.3	—
56	35	Unilock Holdings	45	—	3.0	6.6	6.9
103	81	Walter Alexander	101	—	5.7	5.6	5.6
263	181	W. S. Yeates	257xd	—	13.1	5.1	4.8

MARKET REPORTS

Commodities

COPPER bars were easier yesterday; cathodes were idle.—Afternoon.—Cash wire bars, £817-18.00 a metric ton; three months, £837-37.50. Sales, 8,350. Cash cathodes, £809-11.00; three months, £824-26.00. Sales, nil. Morning.—Cash wire bars, £821.50-822; three months, £841.50-842.00. Settlement, £822.00. Sales, 9,975 tons. Cash cathodes, £814-815.00; three months, £829-830.50. Settlement, £815.00. Sales, 125 tons.

TIN.—Standard tin was steady; high-grade was idle.—Afternoon.—Standard cash, £6,200-20 a tonne; three months, £6,210-15. Sales, 300 tonnes. High grade, cash, £6,200-20; three months, £6,210-15. Sales, nil. Morning.—Standard, cash, £6,210-6,220; three months, £6,210-6,220. Settlement, £6,220. Sales, 1,350 tonnes. High grade: cash, £6,210-6,220; three months, £6,210-6,220. Settlement, £6,220. Sales nil. tonnes Singapore tin ex-works was unchanged yesterday at 30.60 ringgit per kilo.

LEAD was barely steady.—Afternoon.—Cash, £340.50-41.00 per tonne; three months, £346.50-47.00. Sales, 1,275 tonnes. Morning.—Cash, £344-344.50; three months, £348.50-49.50. Settlement, £344.50. Sales, 4,300 tonnes.

ZINC was barely steady.—Afternoon.—Cash, £370-71.00 per tonne; three months, £380.25-80.50. Sales, 1,875 tonnes. Morning.—Cash, £373-374.00; three months, £384-385.00. Settlement, £374.00. Sales, 1,300 tonnes.

PLATINUM was at £208.50 ($450.00) a troy ounce.

SILVER was steady.—Bullion market (fixing levels).—Spot, 505.50p per troy ounce (United States cents equivalent, 1,095.00); three months, 521.40p (1,140.40c); six months, 537.60p (1,188.60c); one year 570.80p (1,277.00c). London Metal Exchange.—Afternoon.—Cash, 502-4.0p; three months, 518-19.0p. Sales, 22 lots of 10,000 troy ounces each. Morning.—Cash, 501-502.0p; three months, 515.5-516p. Settlement, 502.0p. Sales, 44 lots.

ALUMINIUM was steady.—Afternoon.—Cash, £633-35.00 per tonne; three months, £649-50.00. Sales, 2,350 tonnes. Morning.—Cash, £634-636; three months, £650-651. Settlement, £636.00. Sales, 3,400 tonnes.

NICKEL was steady, quiet.—Afternoon.—Cash, £2,927-50 per tonne; three months, £2,957-60. Sales 54 tonnes. Morning.—Cash, £2,950-2,960; three months, £2,980-2,985. Settlement, £2,960. Sales, 252 tonnes.

RUBBER was quiet and easier yesterday (pence per kilo).—May, 54.20-55.00; June, 55.10-56.10; July-Sept, 58.00-58.20; Oct-Dec, 61.20-61.50; Jan-March, 64.10-64.30; April-June, 67.10-67.20; July-Sept, 69.40-70.10; Oct-Dec, 72.70-73.00; Jan-March, 75.40-76.00. Sales: five lots at five tonnes each and 143 lots at 15 tonnes each.

RUBBER PHYSICALS were dull.—(All pence per kilo): Spot: 55.50-55.00. CIFs: May, 56.25-57.25; June, 57.00-57.75.

COFFEE.—**ROBUSTAS** (£ per tonne): May, 1,051-1,053; July, 1,052-1,054; Sept, 1,054-1,055; Nov, 1,052-1,054; Jan, 1,060-1,058; March, 1,027-1,054; May, 1,050-1,060. Sales: 829 lots, including six options.

ARABICA (officials at 16.45) April, 146.00-160.00; June, 146.00-148.50; Aug, 143.00-144.00; Oct, 140.00-144.00; Dec, 138.00-141.00; Feb, 137.00-143.00; April, 137.00-143.00. Sales: Two lots.

COCOA was steady (£ per metric ton).—May, 936-937; July, 959-960; Sept, 978-979; Dec, 999-1,000; March, 1,031-1,025; May, 1,037-1,038; July, 1,052-1,055. Sales: 1,396 lots.

SUGAR.—The London daily price of "raws" was £1.00 higher at £208; the "whites" price was £1.00 higher at £231. Futures (£ per tonne): May, 206.60-206.75; Aug, 206.85-206.90; Oct, 206.50-206.75; Jan, 205.00-204.00; March, 204.00-204.50; May, 204.25-204.50; Aug, 204.25-207.00. Sales: 6,842 lots. Closing tone: Steady. ISA prices (April 10): daily, 18.83c; 15-day average, 20.74c.

SOYABEAN MEAL was easy (£ per tonne): April, 131.00-135.00; June, 130.00-130.20; Aug, 133.40-133.60; Oct, 135.00-135.20; Dec, 135.60-137.00; Feb, 137.00-140.00; April, 138.50-142.00. Sales: 181 lots.

WOOL.—NZ crossbreds. No 2 contract, cents per kilo (barely steady): May 353-356; Aug, 360-364; Oct, 364-366; Dec, 372-375; Jan, 376-379; March 381-385; May 386-389; Aug, 391-396; Oct, 391-396. Sales: 80 lots.

GRAIN. (The Baltic).—**WHEAT**.—Canadian western red spring, unquoted. United States dark northern spring, No 2, 14 per cent: unquoted. United States hard winter, 13½ per cent: May, £106.00; June, £105.75 trans-shipment east coast. EEC, unquoted. English feed, fob: April, £119.00; May, £121.00; June, £125.00 east coast.

MAIZE.—United States—French: April, £125.50 trans-shipment east coast. S African white, unquoted. S African yellow: April-May, £85.50.

BARLEY.—English feed, fob: April, £102.50; May, £104.50; June, £105.00 east coast. All per tonne cif United Kingdom unless stated.

London Grain Futures Market (Gafta): EEC origin.—**BARLEY** was slightly easier.—May, £99.85; Sept, £93.65; Nov, £99.50; Jan, £102.90; March, £106.55. Sales: 126 lots. **WHEAT**: Current crop firm; new crop steady.—May, £119.15; July, £121.10; Sept, £101.70; Nov, £105.15; Jan, £109.05; March, £113.05. Sales: 220 lots.

Home-Grown Cereals Authority.—Location ex-farm spot prices:

	Other milling WHEAT	Feed WHEAT	Feed BARLEY
Eastern	—	—	£97.60
E Mid	£118.70	£116.10	£98.10
N East	—	£116.90	£100.00
Scotland	—	—	—

MEAT COMMISSION: Average fatstock prices at representative markets on April 13.—GB: Cattle, 94.15p per kg lw (+1.74). UK: Sheep, 181.68p per kg est dcw (+6.98). GB: Pigs, 71.55p per kg lw (−1.49). England and Wales: Cattle numbers up 24.2 per cent, average price, 94.54p (+1.81). Sheep numbers up 5.0 per cent, average price, 185.72p (+6.22). Pig numbers up 23.6 per cent, average price, 71.55p (−1.50). Scotland: Cattle numbers up 40.2 per cent: average price, 92.7p (+1.66). Sheep numbers down 6.4 per cent, average price, 168.37p (+4.07). Pig numbers down 1.7 per cent, average price, 72.32p (+0.41).

POTATOES (Gafta).—Nov, £56.40; Feb, £65.50; April £73.70. Sales: 90 lots (of 40 tonnes each).

INTERNATIONAL PETROLEUM EXCHANGE.—June, $291.00; July, $297.25; Aug $303.25; Sept, $309.00; Oct, $315.75; Nov, $321.00; Dec, $326.00, Jan (1982), $328.00; Feb (1982), $333.50. Sales: 1,079 lots of 100 tonnes each.

LONDON TEA MARKET.—There was a good demand for the 48,175 packages on offer, traders said yesterday.

Selected brighter Assams were firm, but others lost two to four pence per kilo. Sylhets sold readily at often dearer levels.

East Africans were well supported with brighter dusts gaining several pence, while plain poor-leaf Central Africans eased and with others showing little change.

Demand for Ceylons continued strong at steady prices.

South Indians met a good demand at prices which were fully firm to dearer. The highest price realised this week was 131p for a BOPF from Sri Lanka.

The next sale will be held on April 27.—Reuter.

LME zinc quiet and easier at close

On the London Metal Exchange yesterday zinc closed £2.50 down for cash and £2.25 lower for three months.

Dealers said the market remained quiet throughout the day. After initially holding steady on easier sterling, prices moved lower, reflecting the general trend of base metals.

L M E metal stocks

Stocks in London Metal Exchange official warehouses at the end of last week (all in tonnes except silver which is in troy ounces): Copper rose 3,975 to 120,125; Tin fell 210 to 5,895; Lead fell 2,625 to 47,825; Zinc fell 525 to 88,175; Aluminium rose 9,150 to 51,650; Nickel fell 174 to 3,216; Silver rose 380,000 to 24.49m.

Discount market

Underlying factors suggested a small surplus of funds yesterday, but this did not show in the discount market. The authorities found that some houses needed a little help. Houses started the bidding for secured funds anywhere between 11½ and 11¾ per cent. Most took money up to 11¾ per cent as the session progressed and one or two even paid up to 12 per cent for overnight funds.

Foreign exchange report

A broad and sharp advance occurred in the dollar on foreign exchange markets yesterday, boosted by Friday's prime increases and the much higher United States money supply figures. Chase Manhattan's half-point rise in its prime rate to 17½ per cent came only a week after its chairman had forecast interest rates down to 15 per cent later this year. So a good deal of switching into the dollar occurred as Eurodollar rates rose from the start of business.

The pound was also hit, with other Continentals, though after dipping to a "low" of $2.1520, it closed off the bottom at $2.1645 (Friday, $2.1820) against the dollar, while its trade-weighted average ended 0.3 off at 98.9 (after 98.8).

Small ground was conceded to Europeans. Dealers reported a fairly brisk trade at the outset, but thereafter activity subsided.

Despite Bundesbank support, the mark ended almost two pfennigs lower at 2.1703 (2.7530). Others weaker in dollar terms included Swiss francs, 1.9855 (1.9635), the guilder, 2.4080 (2.3780).

Sterling: Spot and Forward

	Market rates (day's range) April 13	Market rates (close) April 13	1 month	3 months
New York	$2.1550-1690	$2.1640-1650	0.95-0.05c disc	2.35-2.45c disc
Montreal	$2.5630-5770	$2.5755-5765	1.15-1.25c disc	3.25-3.45c disc
Amsterdam	5.18-21fl	5.19¾-20¾fl	1¼-¼c prem	2½-1½c prem
Brussels	76.80-77.10f	77.00-10f	45-55c disc	110-125c disc
Copenhagen	14.70½-78½k	14.77-78k	285-445ore disc	1035-1215ore disc
Dublin	1.2800-2880p	1.2860-2875p	26-40p disc	90-110p disc
Frankfurt	4.68-70½m	4.69¼-70¼m	½pf prem-½pf disc	½-½pf disc
Lisbon	125.25-126.50e	126.05-25e	15-90c disc	70-235c disc
Madrid	189.75-191.00p	190.70-90p	90-120c disc	430-470c disc
Milan	2330-39lr	2336-2338lr	11¾-13¾lr disc	39-42lr disc
Oslo	11.84½-92½k	11.91¼-92¼k	105prem-25ore disc	80prem-65ore disc
Paris	11.05-10½f	11.06½-07½f	¼-1¼c disc	2¼-3¼c disc
Stockholm	10.14¼-19½k	10.18-19k	270-350ore disc	895-1090ore disc
Tokyo	466-69½y	467¼-68¼y	2.45-2.05y prem	5.90-5.30y prem
Vienna	33.13-38sch	33.30-35sch	3gro prem-par	7prem-3gro disc
Zurich	4.27-29½f	4.28-29f	1¼-¼c prem	3¾-3¼c prem

Effective exchange rate compared to 1975 was down 0.3 to 98.9.

Other Markets

Australia	1.8890-1.8830
Bahrein	0.8130-0.8160
Finland	8.9655-9.0005
Greece	112-114
Hongkong	11.5985-11.6385
Iran	not available
Kuwait	0.5940-0.5970
Malaysia	4.9800-5.0200
Mexico	50.65-52.15
New Zealand	2.39-2.41
Saudi Arabia	7.2285-7.2585
Singapore	4.5450-4.5750
South Africa	1.7450-1.7600

Indices

	Bank of England Index	Morgan Guaranty Changes %
Sterling	98.9	−27.2
US dollar	102.5	−2.2
Canadian dollar	86.3	−17.6
Schilling	115.4	+22.3
Belgian franc	107.3	+9.1
Danish kroner	88.9	−10.6
Deutsche mark	120.3	+40.3
Swiss franc	133.9	+73.0
Guilder	111.8	+15.3
French franc	86.2	−9.6
Lira	59.3	−55.2
Yen	142.3	+37.7

Based on trade weighted changes from Washington agreement December, 1971. (Bank of England Index 100).

Dollar Spot Rates

*Ireland	1.6780-1.6800
+Canada	1.1911-1.1916
Netherlands	2.4070-2.4090
Belgium	35.55-35.58
Denmark	6.8325-6.8375
West Germany	2.1698-2.1708
Portugal	58.05-58.20
Spain	88.15-88.20
Italy	1079-1080
Norway	5.4980-5.5040
France	5.1225-5.1250
Sweden	4.7010-4.7060
Japan	216.15-216.35
Austria	15.29-15.31
Switzerland	1.9805-1.9820

* Ireland quoted in US currency.
+ Canada $1 : US $0.8385-0.8388

EMS Currency Rates

	ECU central rates	currency against ECU	% change from central rate+	% change adjusted+*	divergence limit % plus/minus
Belgian franc	40.7985	41.5796	+1.91	+1.90	1.53
Danish krone	7.91917	7.96961	+0.64	+0.63	1.64
German D-mark	2.54502	2.53682	−0.32	−0.33	1.14
French franc	5.99526	5.98582	−0.16	−0.17	1.365
Dutch guilder	2.81318	2.81013	−0.12	−0.13	1.515
Irish punt	0.685145	0.694804	+1.41	+1.40	1.665
Italian lira	1262.92	1263.45	+0.04	+0.03	4.11

+ changes are for the ECU therefore positive change denotes weak currency.
* adjusted for sterling's weight in the ECU, and for the lira's wider divergence limits.
Adjustment calculated by The Times.

Euro-$ Deposits

(%) calls, 14¾-15¼; seven days, 16⅛-16⅝; one month, 17¼-17½; three months, 16⅝-16⅞; six months, 16½-16¾.

Gold

Gold fixed: am, $475.50 (an ounce); pm, $473.75 close, $471.50.
Krugerrand (per coin): $486-489 (£225-226.5).
Sovereigns (new): $118-120 (£54.5-55.5).

Money Market Rates

Bank of England MLR 12%
(Last changed 10/3/81)
Clearing Banks Base Rate 12%
Discount Mkt Loans%
Overnight: High 12 Low 11
Week Fixed: 11⅞-11¾

Treasury Bills (Dis%)

Buying		Selling	
2 months	11⅝	2 months	11⅝
3 months	11¹¹⁄₃₂	3 months	11⅝

Prime Bank Bills (Dis%) Trades (Dis%)

2 months	11¾-11⅝	3 months	12⅛
3 months	11¹⁹⁄₃₂-11¹⁷⁄₃₂	4 months	12⅛
4 months	11½-11⅜	6 months	11⅞
6 months	11¼-11⅛		

Local Authority Bonds

1 month	13¼-13	7 months	12¾-12½
2 months	13-12¾	8 months	12¾-12½
3 months	13-12¾	9 months	12¾-12½
4 months	12⅞-12⅝	10 months	12¾-12½
5 months	12¾-12½	11 months	12¾-12½
6 months	12¾-12½	12 months	12¾-12½

Secondary Mkt. £CD Rates (%)

1 month	13¼-12⅞	6 months	12⅛-12
3 months	12¾-12⅝	12 months	12¹⁄₁₆-11¹⁵⁄₁₆

Local Authority Market (%)

2 days	12	3 months	12⅛
7 days	12¼	6 months	12⅛
1 month	12	1 year	12¼

Interbank Market (%)

Overnight: Open 13-11¾ Close 11¾

1 week	13-11¾	6 months	12⁵⁄₁₆-12³⁄₁₆
1 month	12¹⁵⁄₁₆-12¹³⁄₁₆	9 months	12⁵⁄₁₆-12³⁄₁₆
3 months	12⁷⁄₁₆-12⁵⁄₁₆	12 months	12⁵⁄₁₆-12³⁄₁₆

First Class Finance Houses (Mkt. Rate%)
3 months 12¹³⁄₁₆-12¹¹⁄₁₆ 6 months 12¹¹⁄₁₆-12⁹⁄₁₆

Finance House Base Rate 13%

First Chicago up 19 pc for quarter

International

First Chicago Corporation said that its first quarter operating earnings increased by 19 per cent from a year before, but shareholders at the annual meeting criticized management for past errors and for making hefty redundancy payments to former officers.

The meeting was the first such session for First Chicago's new chairman and chief executive officer, Mr Barry F. Sullivan, chosen last June to help rescue America's tenth largest bank holding company from management squabbles and declining earnings.

Mr Sullivan stole some shareholder thunder when he told a crowded auditorium that First Chicago's operating earnings had climbed by 19 per cent, the first comparative increase in seven quarters. Earnings before securities gains were $22.4m (£10.4m), or 56 cents a share, compared with a restated $18.8m, or 47 cents a common share, a year ago.

Mr Sullivan also predicted that earnings for the rest of 1981 would be "significantly better [...] last year [...] profi[...]d to $[...] $12[...]

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[...]a expe[...] q[...] operating [...] i[...] be up by [...] 1[...]nt from a y[...] d[...] declines [...] S[...]d foreign [...]s.

[...]xpected inc[...] [...]he group's [...] [...]g per-unit p[...] [...]ontrolling [...] [...]s throughout [...] said.

[...]ola said it [...]ng soft dri[...] [...] rest of the [...]

Kawasaki issue likely

The Japanese newspaper *Asahi Shimbun* has reported that Kawasaki Heavy Industries will privately place 10,000m yen (about £21m) of debentures in Saudi Arabia. Kawasaki declined to comment.

The newspaper said a contract for the seven-year issue was expected to be signed in London today and the debentures would all be bought by the Saudi Arabian Monetary Agency.

The issue was arranged by Yamaichi Securities, Dai-Ichi Kangyo Bank Nederland and Credit Suisse First Boston, it added.

As a means of recycling petrodollars, three Japanese concerns have issued similar debentures in Saudi Arabia but in United States dollars, Deutsche marks and Saudi rials.

This would be the first yen-denominated debenture in Saudi Arabia.

Wall Street

New York, April 13.—Interest rate worries and weakness in the oil and large computer groups sent New York stock market prices broadly lower in active trading.

The Dow Jones industrial average lost 7.11 points to 993.16 and declines led advances five to two as turnover slowed to over 50 million shares from the 58,130,000 traded Friday.

Active RCA lost ¼ to 24⅜. General Motors eased ⅜ to 53¼. Ford slipped ⅛ to 22 and Chrysler ⅛ to 6⅞.

Brookwood Health Services rose 1¾ to 45½ bid, over-the-counter. American Medical raised its bid for Brookwood to $50 a share, topping Humana's $42 a share offer. (Humana tacked on ¼ to 40⅞.

Newmont Mining fell five to 61⅞. Asarco lost 1¾ to 41, Phelps Dodge 1⅞ to 42⅞ and Amax 1⅞ to 58⅞.

Golds were weak as bullion prices continued to slide. Asa Ltd fell ⅞ to 50, Dome Mines 1⅞ to 84⅞, Homestake ⅞ to 54⅞ and Campbell Red Lake 2¼ to 49⅞.—Reuter.

GOLD futures were: CHICAGO IMM, June, 563.00 bid-565.00; July, 564.50 asked; Sept, 584.00 bid; Oct, 590.60 asked; Dec, 603.80 bid; Jan, 610.40 asked; March, 623.80 bid; April, 630.50 asked; June, 644.00 asked; July, 650.70 asked. NY COMEX April, $479.00c; May, $491.00c; June, $485.50-488.00c; Aug, $492.50-500.00c; Oct, $512.00c; Dec, $525.00-536.00c; Feb, $537.40c; April, $560.50c; June, $565.30c; Aug, $575.00c; Oct, $589.70c; Dec, $603.30c; Feb, $617.00c.

SILVER futures were: April, 1,117.50c; May, 1,125.00-1,139.00c; June, 1,140.50c; July, 1,153.00-1,154.00c; Sept, 1,189.00-1,190.00c; Dec, 1,255.00-1,257.00c; Jan, 1,240.00c; March, 1,280.00c; May, 1,311.00c; July, 1,342.00c; Sept, 1,375.00c; Dec, 1,419.50c.

COPPER futures were: April, 79.30c; May, 80.25-80.30c; June, 81.30c; July, 82.60-82.80c; Sept, 85.10c; Dec, 88.60-88.80c; Jan, 89.40c; March, 92.20c; May, 94.10c; July, 96.60c; Sept, 98.80c; Dec, 101.95c; Jan, 103.00c.

COTTON futures were: May, 89.45c; July, 89.30-89.45c; Oct, 86.35c; Dec, 85.15-85.35c; March, 84.40 bid-84.50 asked; May, 85.30c asked; July, 85.75 [...] 85.95c asked.

SUGAR futures held closing losses of 0.62 to 0.36 cent after fluctuating in a small 0.30-cent trading range. May, 18.25-18.30c; July, 18.30-18.[...]; Sept, 18.39c; Oct, 18.30-18.35c; [...] 18.53c; March, 18.47-18.[...]; [...] 18.57-18.65c; July, 18.75-18.[...]

COFFEE futures were: May, 12[...] 121.80c; July, 122.75-123.30c; [...] 123.25-123.40c; Dec, 121.25-12[...]; March, 120.00-120.35c; May, [...] 120.25c; July, 119.50-120.40c; Sept, 120.00-121.00c asked.

COCOA futures were: May, $[...] 1,835; July, $2,015-2,0[...]; [...] $3,069-2,052; Dec, $3,130-[...]; March, $3,184-3,179; May, [...] 2,325.

CHICAGO SOYABEANS. Futures [...]ished 18 to 24 cents a bushel [...] at or near the top of a 12½-cent [...] **SOYABEANS**. May, 770-757½c; [...] 796-785½c; Aug, 803½-792c; [...] 812-803c; Nov, 828-816½c; Jan. [...]

[...]arch, 867½-867[...]

[...]BEAN OIL.—M[...] July, 25.08-2[...] 5.40c; Sept, [...] Dec, 26.65c; [...] 27.45 bid-27.65c [...] bid-28.05c asked; [...] c asked. SOY[...] $219.50-219. [...] 227.80; Aug, $2[...] 231.00; Oct, $2[...] 231.00-240.80; J[...] $248.00; May, [...] asked.

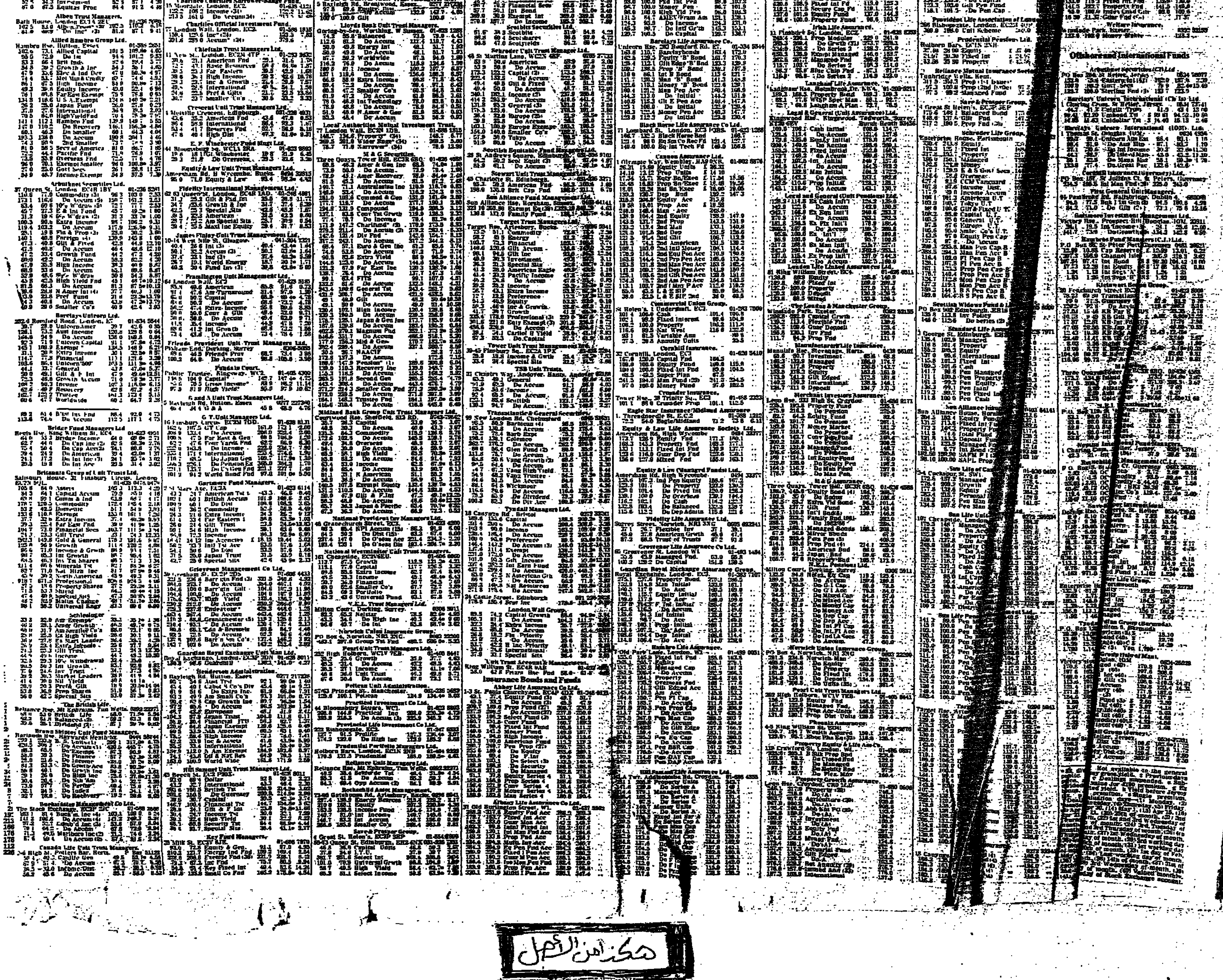
[...]GO GRAINS.—[...] 7½ to five cents a [...] near the top of [...] Corn futures end[...] down 1½c to 2¼[...] trade. WHEAT.—M[...] 438½-430c; Sept, 4[...] 465c; March, 4[...] 90c. CORN.—May [...] 375½-371¼c; Sep[...] 397½-390c; March[...] 403-398c. Oats.[...] July 215½-21[...] Dec, 229½-22[...]

[...] exchange.—S[...] (3.1775); three m[...] Canadian d[...] 88[...]

[...]he Dow Jones spot co[...] 411.62 (418.07) [...] was 420.70 (424.3[...] Dow Jones ave[...] 993.16 (1,000.27[...] 439.28 (446.29); u[...] 77.53); 65 stock, 39[...] New York Stock Ex[...] 04 (77.78); Indu[...] 0.71; transportation, [...] 58.18 (58.5[...] 85 (78.41).

[...]esterday's Wall Street and [...]anadian closing [prices will] appear tomorrow. Later publica[ti]on, caused by the [change to] British Summer Time, will continue until Eastern [Daylight] Time begins in [the United] States on April 26.

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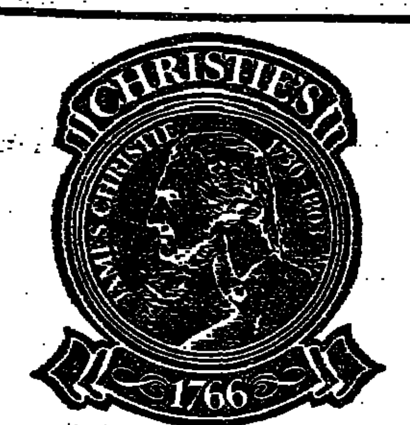
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Today, Tuesday, 14 April, at 10.30 a.m. and 2 p.m.
ENGLISH AND FOREIGN COINS, ORDERS AND CAMPAIGN MEDALS, BANKNOTES. Catalogue £2.30.

Tuesday, 14 April, at 11 a.m. and 2.30 p.m.
FINE JAPANESE CERAMICS, LACQUER AND METALWORK. Catalogue £5.

Wednesday, 15 April, at 11 a.m.
IMPORTANT JEWELS. Catalogue £2.30.

Wednesday, 15 April and Thursday, 16 April, at 11 a.m. each day
BOOKS FROM THE LIBRARY OF THE LATE ERIC SEXTON, F.S.A. removed from Rockport, Maine. Catalogue £3.

Thursday, 16 April, at 11 a.m. and 2.30 p.m.
FINE ENGLISH FURNITURE, EASTERN RUGS AND CARPETS. Catalogue £2.30.

EASTER BANK HOLIDAY
Christie's King Street will be closed on Good Friday, 17 April, through to Easter Monday, 20 April, and will re-open on Tuesday, 21 April. Sales will commence on Wednesday, 22 April with Indian, Himalayan and South East Asian, Persian and Islamic Works of Art.

OVERSEAS SALES
IN ROME
AT THE PALAZZO MASSIMO LANCELLOTTI
Tuesday, 28 April, at 4 p.m. and 9 p.m.
PORCELAIN. Catalogue £2.

Wednesday, 29 April at 4 p.m. and 9 p.m.
RENAISSANCE MEDICI AND BAROQUE MEDALS AND GOLD COINS. Catalogue £2.

IN AUSTRALIA
AT 'THE AGE' GALLERY, 250 SPENCER STREET, MELBOURNE
Tuesday, 28 April, and Wednesday, 29 April.
THE JOHN AND MARGARET STREETER LIBRARY.

All catalogue prices are post paid.
All sales subject to the conditions printed in the catalogue.
For details of sales at Christie's, South Kensington, please contact: 85 Old Brompton Road, London S.W.7. Tel: (01) 581 2231.

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Wednesday the 15th
CARPETS & RUGS at 10 a.m.
ANTIQUE & MODERN FURNITURE at 10.45 a.m.
SECONDARY SALE at 3.30 p.m.
Thursday the 16th
OBJETS D'ART, etc. at 10 a.m.
OILPAINTINGS, WATERCOLOURS AND PRINTS at 2 p.m.
View today 9 a.m. to 4.30 p.m.
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All advertisements are subject to the conditions of acceptance of Times Newspapers Limited, copies of which are available on request.

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New Bond Street
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Tuesday 14th April at approximately 11.30 am immediately following the sale of Important Italian Maiolica
CONTINENTAL POTTERY *Cat. (62 illus.) £2.50*

Wednesday 15th April at 11 am and 2.30 pm
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Cat. (174 illus.) £6.50

Thursday 16th April at 2.30 pm
BRITISH WATERCOLOURS AND DRAWINGS 1750-1920 *Cat. (46 illus.) £2*

Catalogues may be purchased at our salerooms or by post from the Catalogue Department, 34-35 New Bond Street, London W1A 2AA

Belgravia
Sotheby's Belgravia, 19 Motcomb Street, London SW1X 8LB Telephone: (01) 235 4311

Thursday 16th April at 10.30 am
POT LIDS, GOSS, FAIRINGS, COMMEMORATIVE AND STAFFORDSHIRE WARES INCLUDING PORTRAIT FIGURES
Cat. (66 illus.) 80p

Other salerooms and offices: Bournemouth (0202) 294425/6; Cambridge (0223) 67624/5; Chancery Lane (01) 405 7238; Cheltenham (0242) 510500; Chester (0244) 315531; Edinburgh (031) 226 7201; Glasgow (041) 221 4817; Harrogate (0423) 501466; Jersey (0534) 43268; Pulborough (07982) 3831; Slane Drogheda 24401; Taunton (0823) 88441; Torquay (0803) 26277

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Course Leader (Senior Lecturer) from September 1981
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DOMESTIC AND CATERING SITUATIONS

PERSONAL STEWARD/ESS, SECRETARY. Experienced personal steward required for middle-eastern businessman. Position entails extensive overseas travel and is therefore best suited to unattached person, preferably in late 30's or 40's.—Please send C.V. with recent photograph to: G. C. Browne, P.O. Box 5, Egham, Surrey.

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PROPERTY COMPANY in Mayfair require Cook for office dining room. Hours 10-3 p.m. Salary neg. — Please telephone Sally Bellingham on 01-491 8582.

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LEGAL NOTICES

RULEFARM Limited. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 293 of the Companies Act, 1948, that a Meeting of the creditors of the above named Company will be held at the offices of LEONARD CURTIS & CO., situated at 3/4 Bentinck Street, London W1A 3BA on Friday, the 24th day of April 1981 at 10.30 o'clock in the forenoon, for the purposes provided for in Sections 294 and 295.
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A. R. D. LORENZ, Director.

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Applicants should have the usual secretarial skills (good typing and shorthand) plus the ability to work on own initiative and a desire to get involved generally in the work of the departments. Age immaterial.
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RENTALS

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Phillips

Tuesday, 14 April, 11 a.m. FURNITURE, CARPETS [illegible] WORKS OF ART
Tuesday, 14 April, 12.15 [illegible] GOOD PEWTER AND [illegible]
Tuesday, 14 April, 1.30 [illegible] ANTIQUE AND MODERN [illegible]
Wednesday, 15 April, 11 [illegible] CHINESE AND JAPANESE [illegible] AND WORKS OF ART
Wednesday, 15 April, 11 [illegible] DOLLS AND DOLLS' [illegible]
Viewing: Day prior [illegible] *and morning of sale until 11 am*
Wednesday, 15 April, [illegible] ARMS AND ARMOUR [illegible]
Illustrated Catalogue [illegible]
Thursday, 16 April, 11 [illegible] POSTAGE STAMPS: [illegible] CARROLL BOYCE C.B. COLLECTION
Illustrated Catalogue [illegible]
Thursday, 16 April, 1[illegible] SILVER AND PLATE [illegible]
Illustrated Catalogue [illegible]

Phillips will be closed [illegible] Easter from 5 p.m. on Thursday, 16 April. [illegible] Salerooms will reopen at 8.30 a.m. on Tuesday [illegible] April, for viewing but there will be no [illegible] Thursday, 23 April.

7 Blenheim Street, New Bond Street, London W1Y 0AS. Telephone 01-629 6602.

RENTALS

CHESTERTONS
Bedford Park W4. Sunny, spacious and attractively furn. 2 storey ... gdn. 2 recepts ... well fitted ... beds., bath ... CH, chw. Avail ... yrs. £155 p.w.
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RENTALS

CHESTERTONS
Westminster, S.W.1.
Superb Family flat in mansion block. 3 dble., 1 sgle. bedrms., 2 bathrms., 2 receps., well fitted kit. with brkfst. area. Ideal for entertaining. £275 p.w.

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SERVICES

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(continued on page 28)



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Broadcasting Guide

Edited by Peter Dear

PERSONAL CHOICE



…cia Hayes as the cr… widow Mrs Bennett and Bobby …s playing 12-year-… David Anderson who befriends … in tonight's Play … Pleasure, Storm in a Broken … (ITV 9.00 pm).

…e high standard of …ng and acting in the Plays for …ure series continue… Larry Wyce's STORM IN A …KEN TEACUP (ITV … pm). The play centres on a …ankerous old woman … by the ever-excellent …icia Hayes who is vi… by a young schoolboy …by Collins offering … ets. At first she vehemently …ses the charitable gift … on a subsequent visit …tantly accepts them … invites him in for tea. Thus …s a friendship between … lonely people who do not at … realize they need each other, it is a poignant and …ly credible story, with …tor Derek Lister coaxing …derful performances fr… all four of the cast.

…night's s…ect for OMNIBUS (BBC 1 10.45 pm) is the …t Mark Gertler. Born in … of Jewish-Austrian …nts he attended the Slade School of Art and on leaving …e in 1912 became the dar… of the art critics and the … of his contemporaries. … he committed suicide in … he was penniless, unable … sell his pictures, fearful of …mounting anti-semitism a… of the war that was …ing. What happened to h… in the intervening years? …tony She… Phil Mullo… have pieced together his life … known … its and his paintings.

…ith the p… of petrol it is … more and more people …taking to … cycles to … place of work in order …mprove the … of their pocket and physical health. … how man… the people who are tempted by this mode …ansport … which sort of cycle is right for them? …SDAY C… (Radio 4 9.05 …) is all about cycling and …e studio … wait your queries … all matters concerning …elocipede … pedal power … Richard Ballantyne, …in Ayres … Judith Chalmers. If you have a question … 01-580 4… The lines are open from 8.00 am.

…fferent …s of our coastline are examined in Radio …THE SEASIDE IN SPRING (… 50 pm). The programme, …ented by … Thompson, … Chichester Harbour … Martin … aster who examines the erosion at East …; recalls halcyon days of Redcar Pier with Robert …ll; goes … tasting with … n Bennett at …gford … follows Bob D…vers Walker in his …h for sunken treasure off the Scilly Isles and, with …ina Denn… sits some ornithologists in the Western … who are trying to establish the elegant sea-eagle.

…T THE … BOLS … MAN: STEREO; * BLACK AND …TE; (r) RE…

TELEVISION

BBC 1

6.40 am … Open University: …ary Metabolism; 7.05 Intermed… …fic Control; 7.30 Ex… Air Traf… Frequency Space. Closedown at … ploring … 7.55. … Cartoon (r). 9.40 … 9.35 Ro… …ty. Part two of The Jackano… (r). 9.55 The Banana … Hobbit … Entertainment for the Splits. … (r). 10.25 Lassie (r). 10.50 young … Chess! The Knight (r). Play … Closed… own at 11.00. … News. 12.45 p… Pebble Mill at One. 1.00 … can singer Vic Damone … Ameri… … bout his career. … talks a… The Flumps (r). Closedown 1.45 T… … at 2.00 … Pobol y Cwm Welsh serial. 3.20 P… …y School. For the under … 3.55 Pl… 4.20 Godzilla. Cartoon fives. … in Magnetic Terror. … monster … hat's the Idea! More 4.40 W… …s inventions presented … ingeniou… Lunn. 5.00 John … by Wilf… Newsround. 5.10 Chil… Craven's … Fire Mountain. Part … dren of … a serial set in New … seven of … Zealand at the turn of the century.

5.40 News read by Richard Baker. 5.55 Regional news magazines. 6.20 Nationwide.

6.55 The return of the Space Shuttle.

7.35 The Return of Captain Nemo. The second of a three part adventure serial starring Jose Ferrer as the underwater hero. 8.20 When the Boat Comes In. The Spanish Civil War forms the background of this the penultimate episode in the series.

9.10 News with Peter Woods.

9.45 Play: Caught on a Train by Stephen Poliakoff, starring Peggy Ashcroft and Michael Kitchen. A train journey through Germany has unexpected repercussions for a young publishing executive when he shares his compartment with an old Viennese lady and a beautiful American girl.

11.05 Omnibus: Mark Gertler. A biographical account of the painter many thought to be the most promising artist in Britain during the second decade of the 20th century. But when he died in 1939 his work was completely ignored and himself forgotten (see Personal Choice).

11.55 News headlines and weather.

Regions

BBC1 VARIATIONS: Cymru/Wales 3.20 pm-3.55 Closedown. 5.10-5.40 Bilidowcar. 5.55-6.20 Wales Today. 6.55-7.10 Heddiw. 7.10-7.40 Pobol y Cwm. 7.40-8.10 Hi-De-Hi! 12.12 am-12.27 The Hope of Glory. 12.27 News and weather. Scotland 12.40 pm-12.45 The Scottish News. 3.20-3.55 Closedown. 5.55-6.20 Reporting Scotland. 6.55-7.25 Sorry! 10.45-11.15 Current Account. 11.15-12.05 am Omnibus: Parrots, Bees, Ducks and Finches. 12.05 News and weather. Northern Ireland 3.20pm-3.53 Closedown. 3.53-3.55 Northern Ireland News. 5.55-6.20 Scene around Six. 6.55-7.25 In Our Own Good Time. 10.45-11.15 Lifetimes. 11.15-11.50 U2 Play Belfast. 11.50 News and weather. England 5.55 pm-6.20 Regional Magazines. 6.55-7.25 East — The Pace-Setters. London and South East — Rolf Harris Cartoon Time. Midlands — Look! Hear! North — Riding the Summer Sun. North East — The Four Great Seasons. North West — Dodd On His Todd. South — Talking Sport. South West — According To Hoyle. West — Breakthrough '81. 12.15 am Close.

BBC 2

6.40 am … Open University: …evelopment … 7.05 Reading D… …ome; 7.30 The Earned Inc… San Biagio. Close… Madonna di … down at 7.55. … …ool. The present… 11.00 Play Sch… Nightingale and … ers are Lesley … d the story, Joe … Fred Harris an… read by Rachel … Moves House, i… Hurst. … nal Snooker. 11.25 Internatio… the morning … Live coverage of … sions of the … and afternoon ses… …ooker Cham… Embassy World Sn… …l from the … pionship introduce… Sheffield, by … Crucible Theatre, S… coverage at … David Vine. Further … …0. 6.55 pm, 10.15 and 11… … 4.50 Open University: … Disaster Simulation 2: Debriefing; 5.15 Potsdam 3: The Deal; 5.40 Miracles; 6.05 Worker, Scholar or Citizen?; 6.30 Light: In Search of a Model.

6.55 International Snooker. A recording of the outstanding frame of the day, presented by David Vine.

7.15 News including sub-titles for the hard-of-hearing.

7.25 The Easter Experience? Pat Sloper tells of the decision she faced when she discovered her child would be born damaged.

7.40 The Hollywood Greats. Barry Norman, in the third of his series, looks at the life and career of Marilyn Monroe (r).

8.30 Hooked! The third heat in the coarse angling competition recorded last autumn at the Edgbaston Reservoir.

9.00 Gladys Knight and the Pips. The first of two concerts recorded at The New London Theatre featuring a very talented American singing group.

9.35 One Man and his Dog. One girl and her dog would be a more correct title this week. She, along with three boys, competes in a first-ever junior competition.

10.15 International Snooker.

10.45 Newsnight. World news and an in-depth look at one of the stories that made today's headlines.

11.30 International Snooker. The last visit of the day to the Crucible Theatre, Sheffield. The programme ends at 12.15 am.

Thames

9.30 am The Master Build…ers. A look at the Mulberry Harb…our, a construction that made … the Normandy landings possi…ble. … With Alastair Borthwick. 9… 55 … Teine Samoa … A Girl … of Samoa. The life style of a youn… girl on the Pacific island of Samoa. 10.20 The Horrible Honchos. A schoolgirl's boycott of a new boy rebounds on her. 11.05 Sailorman. What life was like for a Victorian Thames bargee (r). 11.30 At the Embankment. Irish folk music from the group Clannad. 12.00 Cockleshell Bay. 12.10 pm Pipkins. 12.30 The Sullivans. World War Two with an Australian family.

1.00 News. 1.20 Thames News with Robin Houston.

1.30 Crown Court. Continuing the case of the lady accused of stealing and disposing of incriminating photographs. 2.00 After Noon Plus. Judith Chalmers with news of Church embroidery, drip dry capes for itinerant archbishops and flower arranging for Easter.

2.25 Horse Racing from Newmarket. Brough Scott introduces the 2.30, 3.00 and 3.30 races from the opening day of the Newmarket flat racing season.

3.45 Barney Miller. Part two of the story which started last week in which Miller becomes the friend of some people squatting in a condemned building.

4.15 Five Magic Minutes with Alan Shaxon. 4.20 Moondogs Matinee. Music from a young … enthusiastic pop group. and … …ce Reports. News, ideas 4.45 … …tertainment for young and en… people. 5… …15 Emmerdale Farm. … 6.00 Thames News.

5.45 News … with Viv Taylor Gee.

6.25 Help! … …oads. 7.00 Looks … 6.35 Crossr… Familiar. De…nis Norden, with his very distinguished guests Andre Previn, Alan Jay Lerner and Benny Gree…n, reminisces about the entertainers of the Thirties and Forties.

7.30 Film: On the Buses (1974). Starring Reg Varney. A big screen version of the popular TV comedy series concerning a bus company.

9.00 Play: Storm in a Broken Teacup by Larry Wyce. Patricia Hayes and Bobby Collins star in this story of the friendship between a neglected twelve-year-old boy and a lonely, crusty old widow (see Personal Choice).

10.00 News.

10.30 High Office. The first of three programmes in which people who have experienced high office simulate their actions in a hypothetical crisis. Tonight the crisis is a nuclear accident.

11.30 Rockstage. A recording of the concert given by Joe Jackson with Martha and the Muffins at the Theatre Royal, Nottingham.

12.25 am No Vain Sacrifice? Leonard Parkin finds out why missionary Catherine Picken chose to return to Zimbabwe and die a brutal death rather than give up her vocation.

RADIO

Radio 4

Radio 3

Radio 2

Radio 1

World Service

REGIONAL TV

ATV

Westward

Scottish

Southern

HTV

Yorkshire

Granada

Ulster

Channel

Border

Tyne Tees

Grampian

As Thames except: Starts 10.05 am First Things. 10.10 Larry the Lamb. 10.20 Target the Impossible. 10.40 Hands. 11.05 Chips. 11.55-12.00 Cartoon. 12.30 pm-1.00 Gardening Today. 1.20-1.30 News. 3.45-4.15 Looks Familiar. 6.00-6.35 North Tonight. 7.00 Entertainers. 7.30 Survival. 8.00-9.00 Charlie's Angels. 11.30 News. 11.35-12.05 am Parish by Night.

Anglia

As Thames except: 9.30 am Tarzan. 10.20 Friends Of My Friends. 10.45 Brass in Concert. 11.25 Cartoon. 11.30-12.00 Crown Green Bowling. 12.30 pm-1.00 Gardening Today. 1.20-1.30 News. 3.45-4.15 Looks Familiar. 6.00-6.35 About Anglia. 7.00 Palace Presents. 8.00-9.00 Charlie's Angels. 11.30 Tempered and Brown Shoe. 12.25 am Programme For Holy Week.

Entertainments Guide

ENTERTAINMENTS | OPERA & BALLET | CONCERTS | THEATRES | ART GALLERIES | CINEMAS

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YOUNG VIC 928 6363. Evs 7.30. All seats £3.50. Last perfs Wed. Sat PYGMALION. Stoppard's R & G Are Dead.

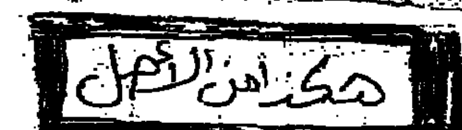
Classified Guide

Box No. replies should be addressed to: The Times, P.O. Box 7, 200 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8EZ.

VICTORIA & ALBERT MUSEUM, S. Ken. SPOTLIGHT: Four Centuries of Ballet Costume. A tribute to The Royal Ballet. Until 26 July. Adm. £1.50. HILLE: 75 Years of British Furniture. Until 31 May. Adm. 50p. DRAWING: TECHNIQUE & PURPOSE. Until 26 April. Wkdys. 10-5.30. Suns. 2.30-5.30. Closed Fridays. Open Easter Sun. & M…

THE FIRST TRIPOLI BO… FAIR

EXHIBITIONS



THE SON OF MAN goeth as it is written of him: but woe unto that man by whom the Son of man is betrayed! it had been good for that man if he had not been born.—St. Matthew 26 : 24.

BIRTHS

ALDRED.—On Sunday, 12th April, to Gwendoline (née ...) and ...—a daughter, a sister for ... Rupert.

ARNOLD.—On April 9th, 1981, to Geraldine and Robin—a son (Patrick Robert).

AU...—On April 12th at the West Suffolk Hospital, to Patricia Anne and Thomas ...—a daughter (Sarah Jane), a sister for Elizabeth Anne.

BAILEY.—On April 10th at St David's, Cardiff, to Diana (née Locke) and Roger—a daughter.

BLAMEY.—On April 9th to Fenella (née Rankin) and Andrew—a daughter (Charlotte Rebecca).

BOGGIS ROLFE.—On 7th April, 1981, to Sophie and Harry—a daughter, stillborn. Please no letters.

CADMAN.—On April 11th, 1981, to Mary and John—a daughter (Eleanor Clare), a sister for Catherine and Elisabeth.

CURTIS.—On 10th April, 1981, to Tory and Julian—a son.

DAVIES.—On April 6th at Warneford Hospital, Leamington to Marilyn Ann (née Davies) and John Michael—a daughter (Elizabeth Amy Joy).

DEVAUX.—On 10th April, 1981, to Fiona (née O'Conor) and John—a daughter.

EDWARDS.—On April 10th, at Queen Charlotte's Hospital, to Eleanor (née Robinson) and Julian—a son.

EDWARDS.—On 12th April, to Louella (née Williams) and Michael—a son (Peter Michael), a brother for Harry.

FOWLER.—On 2nd April, to Philippa (née Rouwens) and Robert—a daughter (Wendy Charlotte).

GRAY.—On April 10th, 1981, to Caroline (née Caines) and David—a daughter (Charlotte Sophie).

HERBERT.—On April 12th, 1981, at Mill Road, Cambridge, to Rosemary (née Woollam) and Richard—a daughter (Claire Mary).

HOARE.—On April 12th, to Claire (née Mumby) and Gerard—a son (Philip).

HOPE-MORLEY.—On April 9th, to Beatrice and Ian—a son (Edward).

JONES.—On April 10th, 1981 at St Thomas' Hospital, to Pamela (née Pelloe) and Brian—a daughter (Emily Cecilia).

MARSHALL.—On 2nd April, 1981, to Ann and Ben—a son (Samuel James).

MASON.—On April 12th, 1981, to Sandie and James—a daughter (Alexandra), a sister for Charles.

NAYLOR.—On April 13th, to Pippa (née Graham) and James—a daughter (Charlotte Romaney).

PENDRED.—On April 6th 1981 to Penny (née Davidson) and Christopher—a son, James Robert, a brother for Julia.

POOP.—On April 8th, in Philadelphia, to Arabella (née Dennison) and James—a daughter (Katherine Mary Legh), a sister for Jack and Alice.

REED.—On 11 April, to Louise and Peter—a son.

STRANGE.—On April 7th to Janie (née Shuttleworth) and Stuart Michael—a daughter.

WALKER.—On 11th April, 1981, to Fuselle (née Aitchison) and Peter, in Edinburgh—a son (Duncan Stewart Aitchison).

WARNER.—On April 11th, to Claire and Richard—a daughter (Sarah Louise), a sister for Lucy.

MARRIAGES

COY : RIX.—The marriage took place between Jonathan Coy and Louisa Rix in The Chapel of The Most Excellent Order of The British Empire, St. Paul's Cathedral, on Sunday, 12th April.

DEWEY : PEARSON.—On April 11th, 1981, in Dunstable, Stephen Dewey to Michelle Pearson.

SPODE : HOWARTH.—On Saturday 11th April at Newcastle-Under-Lyme, Mark Spode to Karin Howarth.

SILVER WEDDINGS

ELLIS-REES : CRAY.—On 14th April 1956, Hugh and Elisabeth. Congratulations from James, William, Thomas, Mary, Freda, Sybil and Davy.

GROSSETT : SANDERSON.—On 14th April, 1956, at St. Mary's Church, Bodney, Alfred to Penelope. Now at Gelston, Grantham.

RUBY WEDDING

WALKER : CHESTERTON.—On 14 April 1941, at St Peter's R.C. Church, Ludlow, by Rev. P. Pears, with Nuptial Mass, Edwin Peter Kirk Walker to Margaret Catherine Chesterton. Now at Wisborough Green, Sussex. Soli Deo gloria.

GOLDEN WEDDINGS

BOYLE : GRANT DUFF.—On April 14th, 1931, at Holy Trinity Church, Brompton, London, Robert Verrist to Ursula Fiona, now at Gudwick, Sussex.

STANCLIFFE : GRAYSON.—On 14th April 1931, at Whitehaven, Cumberland, George Bernard to Elizabeth Agnes.

DEATHS

ALGAR.—On April 13th, 1981, suddenly, at home in Richmond, Brian, husband of ... (Elsie Tudor). Cremation private. No flowers.

BEECHER.—On 9th April 1981, at Freeland Nursing Home, Frank Brecher, aged ... years, husband of Frances and the late Janet, formerly of Streete, Shotover Hill, Headington, Oxford. Funeral private. No letters, please.

BUCHANAN.—On 10th April, 1981, suddenly, in hospital, Major Francis Joseph Gibson Buchanan, aged 62 years, of Selsdon, dearly loved husband of Gisele. Funeral service will be at Croydon Crematorium on Thursday, 16th April at 2.15 p.m.

CARR, CATHERINE.—On April 11, 1981, peacefully, at Cardiff, in her 86th year. Was long teacher of English literature at Cardiff High School for Girls. Will be much missed by many friends and family. Service Trinity Methodist Church, Newport Road, Cardiff, 1.15 p.m. Thursday, April 16. Cremation private. Family flowers only.

COSTERTON.—On April 11th, 1981, peacefully, at home in Sutton, Horatio Percival (71), Solicitor, husband of Marie, father of Alan and Michael, greatly loved and sadly missed. Funeral service at St. Patrick's Church, Wallington on Wednesday, April 15th at 13.45 p.m., followed by cremation. Enquiries to W. A. Truslove & Son, Sutton, Surrey.

DE SOLDENHOFF, Richard Davis, OBE, beloved husband of the late Mollie de Soldenhoff, loved father of Janice, Alexander and Richard on April 2, 1981. Cremated in the presence of family only on April 9, 1981 in Southport. Donations if desired can be sent to the British Heart Foundation.

DINWIDDIE. — On 12th April, suddenly in hospital, Brigadier Herbert William Dinwiddie, CBE, DL, late 11th Sikh Regiment aged 83 years, beloved husband of Joan, father of Judy and David, and grandfather of Fiona and Lucy. Funeral service 2 pm, 16th April at Leake Church, Borrowby, Thirsk followed by private cremation. Family flowers only. Donations to Cancer Research if desired.

FORDHAM, LINDA DOROTHY VERE.—Peacefully, at Wisma Mulia, Frampton on Severn, on Friday, 10th April. Funeral at the Church of St. Mary the Virgin, Frampton, at 2.30 p.m. on 16th April.

FULLERTON.—On 10 April, peacefully, Colonel Reginald Grey Fullerton, RA, retired, of Westrop House, Corsham, Wiltshire, aged 74. Beloved husband of Charlotte. Funeral at St Cyriac's Lacock, at 2.30 o'clock on Thursday, 16 April, followed by private cremation. Family flowers only; donations to the Friends of Lacock Church, Raycroft, Lacock.

GREENAWAY.—Suddenly, on 11th April, Marion Hilda, of 7 The Green, Ogbourne, peacefully at Princess Margaret Hospital, aged 72 years. Service at St Michael's Church, Ogbourne, Thursday, 16th April at 2 p.m., followed by cremation at Kingsdown, at 3 p.m. No flowers by request, donations to St Michael's Church.

HEATH, DOROTHY MARY, B.Sc. of 48 Lownds Sq., London.—On 11th April at St George's Nursing Home, Westminster. Widow of Sir James Heath, Bart. Cremation 3.45, Tuesday, 21st April at West London Crematorium, Kensal Green, Harrow Rd. Enquiries to John Nodes Funeral Service, 181 Ladbroke Grove, W10. Phone: 01-969 1819.

HERRNHEISER.—On April 12, peacefully in her 90th year, Vera, wife of the late Professor Gustav Herrnheiser, much loved mother of Kate and Ellen, grandmother and great-grandmother. Cremation at Golders Green on April 16th at 1.30 p.m. Flowers to Fairbrother Funeral Services, 21 London Rd., Kingston-on-Thames. 01-546 3223.

LOWATH. — On 11th April 1981, Arthur Norman of Gilmayes, Crow Lane, Ringwood, Hants., and formerly of Fiji. Loved husband of Anne and darling father of Karissa and Nicola. At home with the Lord. Funeral service to be held at The Hurn Christian Fellowship, Avon Causeway, Hurn, nr Christchurch on Friday, 17th April, at 2.30p.m. Interment on Saturday, 18th April, at the Maxey Parish Church, nr. Stamford Lincs. at 12 noon. Family flowers only please, but donations in lieu for Christian Outreach among Vietnamese Refugees, c/o H. B. & E. Mudge, 119 Haviland Road, Bournemouth, BH7 6HN.

MACDONALD-BROWN.—On 11th April 1981, peacefully at home, John. Beloved husband of Dulcie and much loved by his son Charters, step-daughter Andrée and all his grandchildren and other family. Family funeral on Thursday 16th April at 3 pm at Putney Vale Crematorium. Flowers to J. H. Kenyon, 83 Westbourne Grove, London W2 4UL.

MARLER, LESLIE SYDNEY, O.B.E., T.D.—On Sunday, 12th April, 1981, peacefully, at home. Very much loved husband of Doris, loving father of June, Christopher and the late Richard. Very dear papa to Judith, Richard and the late Bob Micklem and Julie, James and Serena Marler. Cremation, family only. Memorial service to be announced later.

MENNELL.—On April 12th, suddenly, in Stavanger, Peter, beloved husband of Prudie, darling father of Lindsay, Simon, Jonathan and Alexandra. Loving grandfather to Nicholas, Karina and Helena. Cremation in Norway (April 15th). Memorial service to be announced later.

ORCHARD.—On April 9th, 1981, peacefully, in a nursing home, Margaret, aged 82 years. Funeral service at King Charles Church, Tunbridge Wells, on Wednesday, April 15th at 2.30 followed by cremation. Flowers may be sent to J. W. Pope, Funeral Director, 81 St Johns Rd., Tunbridge Wells, Kent.

PAWLE.—On April 12th, 1981, peacefully in hospital, Margot aged 90, beloved wife of the late Hew. Dearly loved mother of Pauline and Angelina. Very much loved by all her family. Funeral service at Christchurch, Clifton, Bristol, Thursday, 16th April, 11.15 a.m. Family flowers only.

PERKINS.—On April 12 at Kellder Northumberland of Blackfriars House, 19 Newbridge St, London, Rupert, aged 7 years, adored son of David and Sandra Perkins and brother of Ben, Davina and Rory. Private service was held at Hexham, Northumberland.

PLUNKET.—On April 11th, 1981, suddenly, at home, Dromingle Kilquade, County Wicklow, Ireland, Benjamin W. A., much loved husband of Pamela and father of Elizabeth and Charles.

SPEARS, ALICE, wife of the late George Spears.—On 11th April, peacefully, after a short illness, in her 93rd year. Funeral service at Harpenden Methodist Church at 2 p.m., Thursday, 16th April. Flowers to L. C. Weston, 96a Luton Rd., Harpenden; or donations to the James Marshall House Amenity Fund, James Marshall House, Harpenden.

SPURRIER. — On April 11th, Olive Victoria, widow of the Revd H. C. M. Spurrier, aged 95. Family funeral only. No flowers.

TACHMINDJI. — On April 9th, 1981, after a short illness, George Alexander of Jevington Place, Jevington, Sussex. Beloved brother of Michael, Lily, Despina, Katy and much loved uncle. Funeral service at St. Sophia Church, Moscow Rd W2, on Thursday, April 16th at 10.30 a.m. No flowers by request.

WALDEN. — On April 10th 1981, Owen Albert Walden, LL.B. aged 86 years, peacefully in hospital. Beloved father of Reginald and Kenneth, former Deputy Town Clerk of Battersea. Funeral Service at Trinity Road Chapel, Upper Tooting on April 16th at 11 am, followed by cremation at Battersea New Cemetery, Morden. No flowers please but donations if desired to Friends of Frimley Park Hospital, Surrey or Christian Witness to Israel. Enquiries to Francis Buchanan Ltd. 01-874 8363.

TOWELL.—On April 10th, peacefully, at 107 Spilsby Road, Boston, Mary Cooper (Bid), aged 78 years. Widow of John Leslie and much loved mother of Peter, Phil and Diana. Funeral Service at St Botolph's Church on Thursday, 16th April at 12 noon, followed by cremation. Donations if preferred to St Barnabas Hospice, 8 Castle Hill, Lincoln.

WATERHOUSE.—On 11th April, in hospital, Wakefield, after a courageous struggle against cancer, Bridget Millicent, aged ... years, beloved wife of Robert and second mother to Mark, 10 Croft Lane, Newmillerdam, Wakefield. Funeral Thursday, 16th April. Service ... pm, St James' Church, Chapelthorpe, followed by cremation at Wakefield Crematorium. Floral sprays to Messrs Ferguson, Funeral Directors, Wakefield.

MEMORIAL SERVICES

FLYNN.—A service of thanksgiving for the life of Commander Rodney Flynn will be held at the Temple Church on Tuesday, 5th May, at 4.45 p.m.

OLDFIELD.—A memorial service for Sir Maurice Oldfield, G.C.M.G., C.B.E., will be held in the Chapel of the Royal Naval College at Greenwich on Tuesday, 12th May, 1981, at 11 a.m. Admission will be by card only. Please apply by letter to Sir Maurice Oldfield Memorial Service, Northern Ireland Office, Great George Street, London S.W.1.P. 3A.J.

IN MEMORIAM

HOLDER, DOUGLAS WILLIAM FRS. (14th April 1923 to 15th April 1977), remembered always with great love, affection and gratitude.—Barbara and family.

JAFFEE, BESS.—In (and memory) of a loving and beloved wife, mother, and grandmother. April 14th 1961

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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He came home from the
pub one night
and found that she had
gone

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THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the Governors of the Royal National Life-boat Institution ... be held in the main auditorium, Royal Festival Hall, London ... Tuesday, 12th May, 1981 ... 11.30 a.m. The Duke of Atholl, Chairman of the Committee of Management, will be in the chair. The Institution's presentation of awards will be in the main auditorium of the Royal Festival Hall at 3.00 p.m. when medals for gallantry and other awards will be presented.

COOK-Housekeeper wanted ... S.W.1. home.—See Dom. ...

ASHURST MORRIS CRISP ... wish to recruit experienced Solicitors or Barristers for ... Commercial Litigation Department.—See Legal Appointments today.

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The Times Crossword Puzzle No 15,500

This puzzle, used at the Edinburgh regional final of the LANGS SUPREME Times National Crossword Championship, was solved within 30 minutes by 55 per cent of the finalists.

ACROSS

Governor is in most favourable position for command (6).
... is shouldered with honour (5).
...ob's place (9).
Split the pot (5).
Goblin is one caught by Sir Thomas (7).
College of surgeons? (7).
... is taken in water, as a ...e (5).
Nominally bankrupt (8).
Mrs Leonowens afraid to ... me artist (8).
...e's a match for anyone ...
Conrad's insular hero not in the dramatis personae (7).
... made an unexceptional ... for blessing (4, 3).
...tumn's American predecessor (5).
In this form, two sides are perfectly matched (9).
Paradoxically, cricketers are ... out to improve them ...
...es without replacement ...ts (6).

DOWN

... nur, a new-born South ... ican aboriginal? (4, 4).
... lled sole served in a ...y (7).
3 Stephen's escutcheon of such steel? (9).
5 Coming on late or otherwise causing a mix-up (14).
6 Stop control of a newspaper? (5).
7 Nana is a reformed liar (7).
8 Ancient flag officer (6).
9 Vital instruction for permissive existence (4, 3, 3, 4).
16 Its circulation is a hand-to-mouth affair (6-3).
17 They decide our future with a show of hands (8).
19 Bashful type, Uriah? (7).
21 He makes payment for various letters (7).
22 It's fair game (4-2).
24 One of the nuts that are about (5).

Solution of Puzzle No 15,499

THE TIMES

PERSONAL COLUMNS

ALSO ON PAGE 26

SEASONAL SALES

EASTER SPECIAL. — Take your Phone fishing, or if you get seasick, why not take it for a round of golf.—Phonebuild, 239 Finchley Road, N.W.3. 01-431 0266.

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Continued on page 26